Circle Of Reincarnation

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Circle Of Reincarnation

境界のRINNE 17

りんね

高橋留美子
Rumiko Takahashi Presents

境界のRINNE りんね 17

高橋留美子

小学館
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狛犬の迷い九十九神を調査するりんね達の前に現れた巫女の生霊——
どうもその主は祓い屋・翼に縁あるようで…!?
月見で体育祭で怪異が起きたと思えば、鯖人・鳳・れんげに
架印ら馴染みの面々も大暴れ! 季節を問わず、死神・りんねは多事多難!!

Circle Of Reincarnation

高橋留美子の単行本
Rumiko Takahashi's Comics

- 境界のRINNE……1〜17巻
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境界のりんね RINNE

あらすじ Story & Character 人物紹介

真宮桜 Sakura Mamiya
幼い頃にあの世へ迷い込み、幽霊が見えるようになる。
冷静沈着で、何事にも動じないクールな女の子。

鳳 Ageha
りんねに恋する超情熱的・死神少女。

来兎&零不兎 Raito & Rekuto
老舗鎌打ち屋・三日月堂を継いだ双子姉弟。

六道鯖人 Sabato Rokudo
りんねの父にして、幾多のだまし神を束ねる「堕魔死神カンパニー」社長。

十文字翼 Tsubasa Jumonji
桜に想いを寄せるお祓い屋の同級生。

架印 Kain
人間の寿命を管理する記死神の少年。

六文 Rokumon
りんねをサポートする契約黒猫。

四魔れんげ Renge Shima
りんねのクラスにやってきた美人転校生。
正体は悪徳死神・だまし神。

六道りんね Rinne Rokudo
成仏できずにこの世をさまよう霊を、輪廻の輪へと導く仕事をしている。
祖母は死神、祖父は人間。
学校のクラブ棟に住む貧しき高校1年生。

小さい頃から幽霊が見える少女・桜と、死神みたいな仕事をしている貧しき少年・六道りんね。
2人は、成仏できない霊の未練が巻き起こす様々な学園怪奇現象を、協力して解決する毎日。
ある日、桜の元に届いた一通のハガキ――なんと差出人は数年前に出会った少年霊！
りんね&十文字を加え、霊がいた海水浴場へ向かう行、そこへ死神・鳳も合流するが……!?
キャンプ場で縁日の屋台で、夏の怪奇現象連発、死神・六道りんねは夏休みも休む間なし！

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高橋留美子

CHAPTER 159

SEVEN DAYS OF LOVE

THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS ARE OVER...

じん "CHIRP" じん "CHIRP"

ME TOO.

じん "CHIRP"

BUT THERE'S A BUZZING IN MY EARS.

MAYBE I'M JUST IMAGINING IT,

じん "CHIRP" じん "CHIRP"

じん "CHIRP" じん "CHIRP"

SO NOISY.

EVERYONE WAS BEING BOTHERED BY A MYSTERIOUS RATTLING NOISE IN THEIR EARS.

"CHIRP" ぢぢぢぢ "CHIRP"

IT'S LIKE A CREEPY NOISEMAKER RATTLE OR SOMETHING.

"CHIRP" ぢぢ "CHIRP"

2

MY SENPAI IS PRETTY WEIRD LATELY...

PLEASE HELP ME...

I'M NOT SURE HOW TO EXPLAIN THIS...

Folk Song Club

HUH.

THIS IS HOW MY SENPAI USED TO BE.

AT ANY RATE,

Sangai Music Fest

中

MY HEAD HUNG LOW IS REFLECTED IN THEM~

"STRUM" しゃら "STRUM" しゃら "STRUUUM" しゃらーん

LA LA~ YOUR EYES ARE LIKE A QUIET LAKE~

3

AT LEAST HE ***WAS***...

BUT HE'S REALLY GOOD AT THESE KINDS OF LOVE SONGS.

ZAITSU-SENPAI'S A REALLY QUIET GUY,

WOW, HE'S GOT A PRETTY SWEET VOICE.

ONLY SEVEN DAYS OF LOVE~!

"CHIRPING" ぢぢぢぢぢ

AAAAH!! I REALLY WANNA MEET'CHA!!

"SCREAMING" ぐわ!!

じじじじじじ "CHUGGA" "CHUGGA" "CHUGGA"

...A CICADA!?

UGH...

ZA-ZAITSU-SENPAI!!

4

YEAH, AWFUL VOICE, HUH?

"CHIRPING" ぢぢぢ

UMM, THIS IS...?

ぢぢぢぢ "CHIRPING" じじじじ "CHUGGA" "CHUGGA"

AAAAH!! I REALLY WANNA MEET' CHA~!

UGH... MY EARS ARE RINGING...

"CHIRPING"

じんじんぢぢぢ

TO THINK IT WAS SO SWEET AND QUIET...

"CHIRPING"

ぢぢぢ

YEAH... HIS VOICE IS PRETTY BAD TOO...

THE SOURCE OF THAT AWFUL RATTLING SOUND.

THIS IS DEFINITELY...

"CHIRPING"

ぢぢぢぢぢぢ

I'VE BEEN HUNTING DOWN THAT RATTLING NOISE...

JUU-MONJI.

"POOF"

WILL YOU BE QUIET!

"CHIRP"

ぢ

5

.....

A LARGE BROWN CICADA*, TO BE PRECISE.

"CHIRPING"

ぢぢぢぢ

"COUGHING"

ゲホホホ

HUH, A CICADA.

*GRAPTOPSALTRIA NIGROFUSCATA!

I THOUGHT THERE WAS SOMETHING VAGUELY CICADA-LIKE ABOUT HIM...

SO YOU TWO CAN SEE IT TOO?

YUP, IT'S A CICADA.

I DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT, BUT...

NOT LIKE THIS!

BUT YOU KNOW, PEOPLE OFTEN COME BACK FROM THEIR SUMMER HOLIDAYS LOOKING OR TALKING DIFFERENTLY...

I SEE.

I CAN'T STAND IT AT ALL!!

IT- IT'S JUST THAT VOICE...

"CHIRPING"

じゃがじゃが "CHUGGA CHUGGA"

WANNA MEET HER~!

6

ちぢちぢちぢ "CHIRPING"

Clubhouse

HUH?

ちぢちぢちぢ "CHIRPING"

HMM, MY EARS ARE RINGING.

YEAH. FURTHER-MORE...

YOU THINK HE'S BEING POSSESSED BY A LARGE BROWN CICADA SPIRIT.

SO BASIC-ALLY,

Folk Son

じんじんじりり *CHIRPING*

UMM... ARE YOU OK?

じりじり *CHIRPING*

じりじり *CHIRPING*

SO THIS SPIRIT MUST BE PRETTY POWERFUL.

じりじり *CHIRPING*

じりじり *CHIRPING*

ORDINARY STUDENTS CAN SEE IT, AND THE WHOLE SCHOOL IS HEARING A RATTLING NOISE.

IT REALLY IS A CICADA.

じんじんじりり *CHIRPING*

EH!?

WHAT'D YOU SAY!?

THIS IS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!

じりじり *CHIRPING*

じりじり *CHIRPING*

MAMIYA SAKURA, WHO'S THAT GIRL...?

MAMIYA-SAN.

REALLY?

I... I HAD ARRANGED TO MEET WITH ZAITSU-SENPAI DURING THE SUMMER VACATION.

Folk Song Club member, Sada Masami (first year)

BUT...

HE STOOD ME UP...

ABOUT A WEEK AGO.

THAT'S BECAUSE ...

STRUM じゃん

CHUGGA じゃか

WHY'D YOU STAND HER UP?

8

CHIRPING ちゅちゅちゅ ちゅちゅちゅ

CHUGGA じゃか じゃか じゃか じゃか

AND NOW I'M BURNING WITH LOVE~!!

I MET THE GIRL OF MY DREAMS~!

IS THAT SO...

AH...

STAGGERS

THAT'S WHY~!

CHIRPING

WHAT'D YOU SAY!?

EH!?

HAS A GIRLFRIEND!

ZAITSU-SENPAI...

FLEEING

AH... SADA-SAN!

DID ZAITSU-SENPAI'S REAL PERSONALITY RISE TO THE SURFACE THERE!?

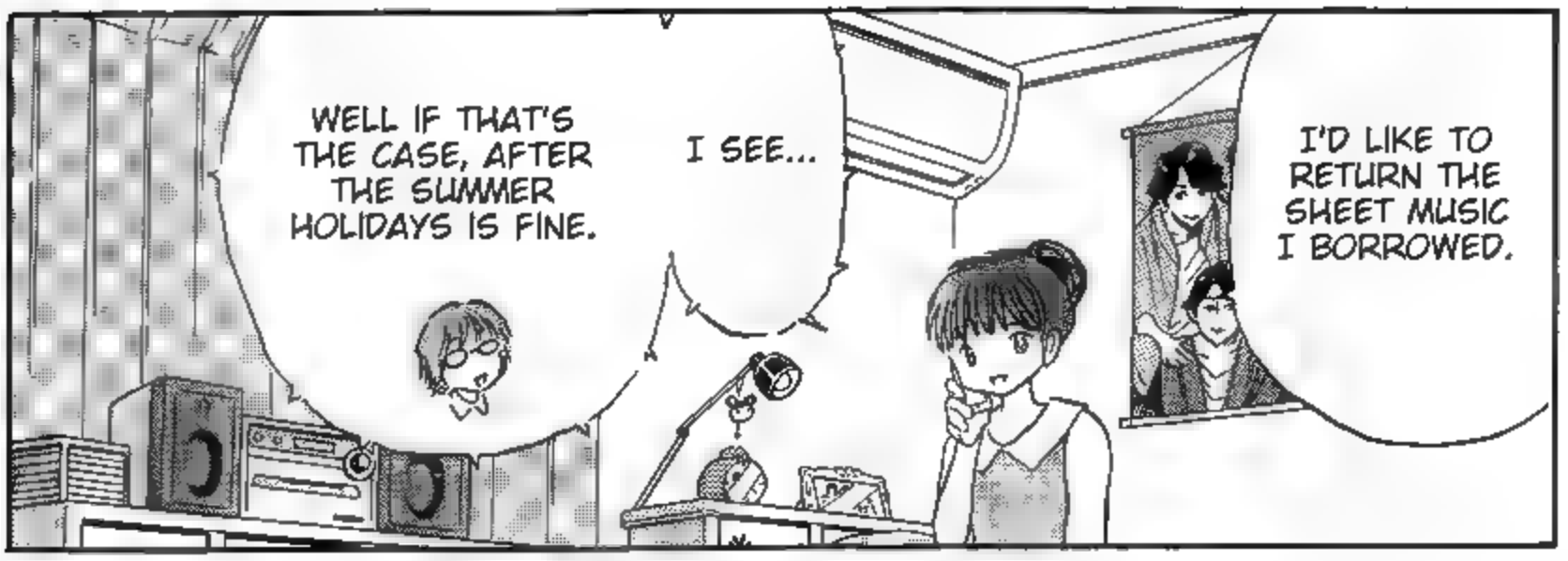
HUH!?

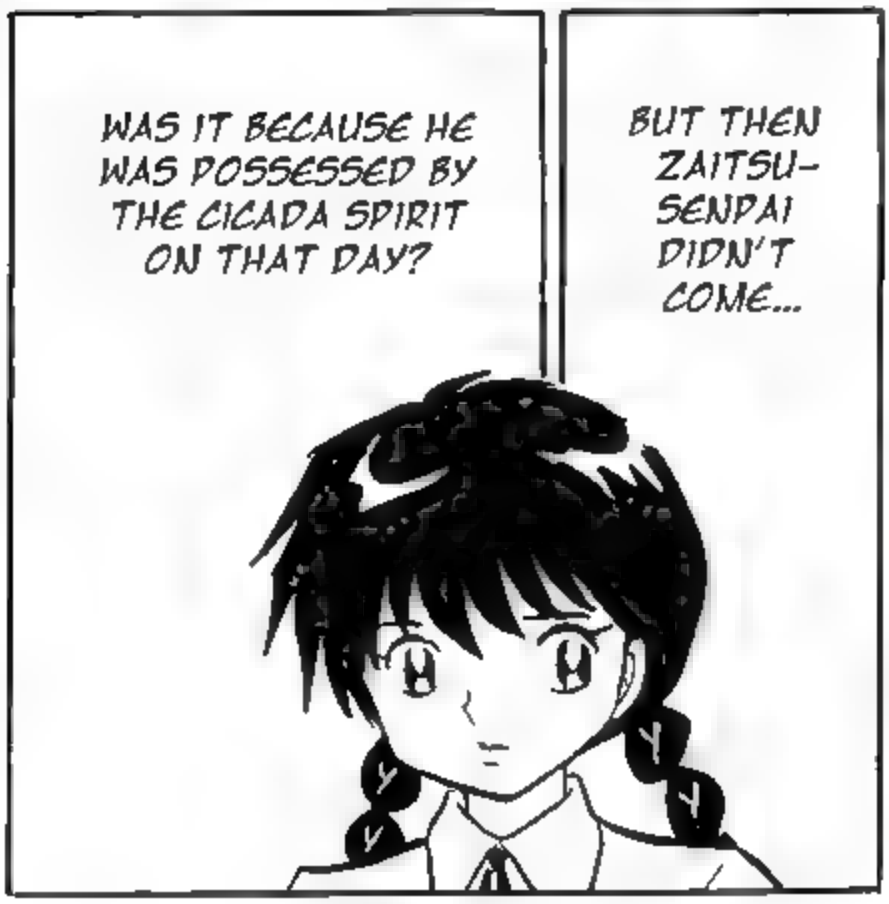
MA-

CHIRP

UNTIL ONE DAY...

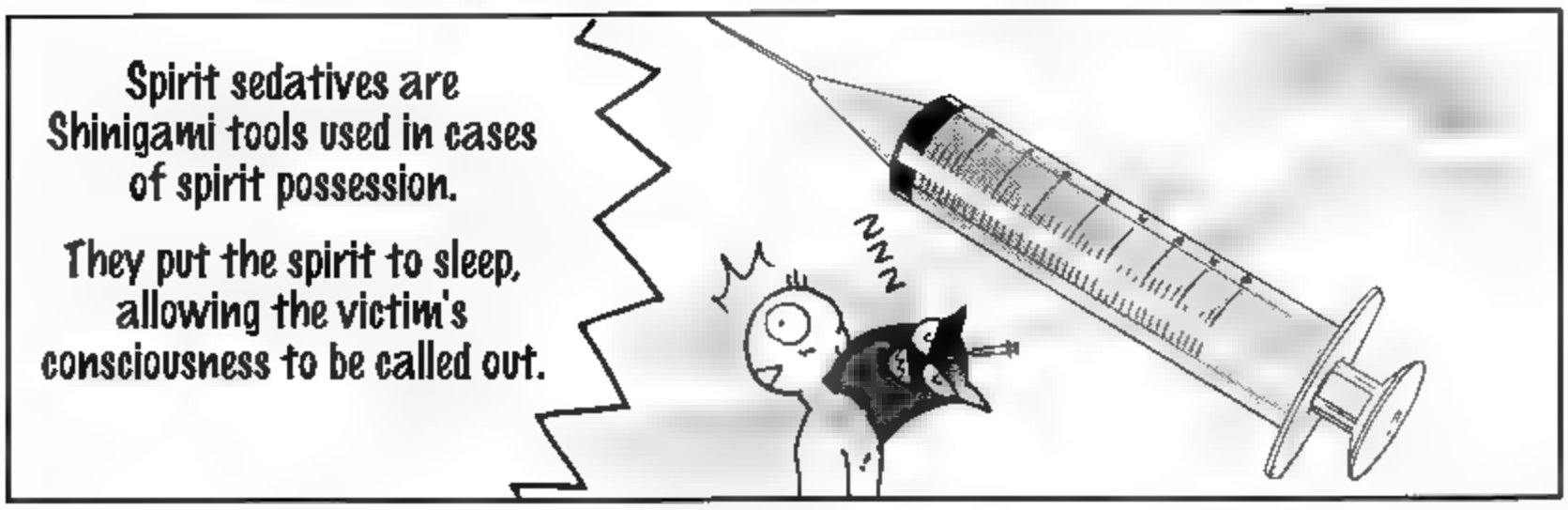
I SECRETLY ADMIRED HIM FROM AFAR.



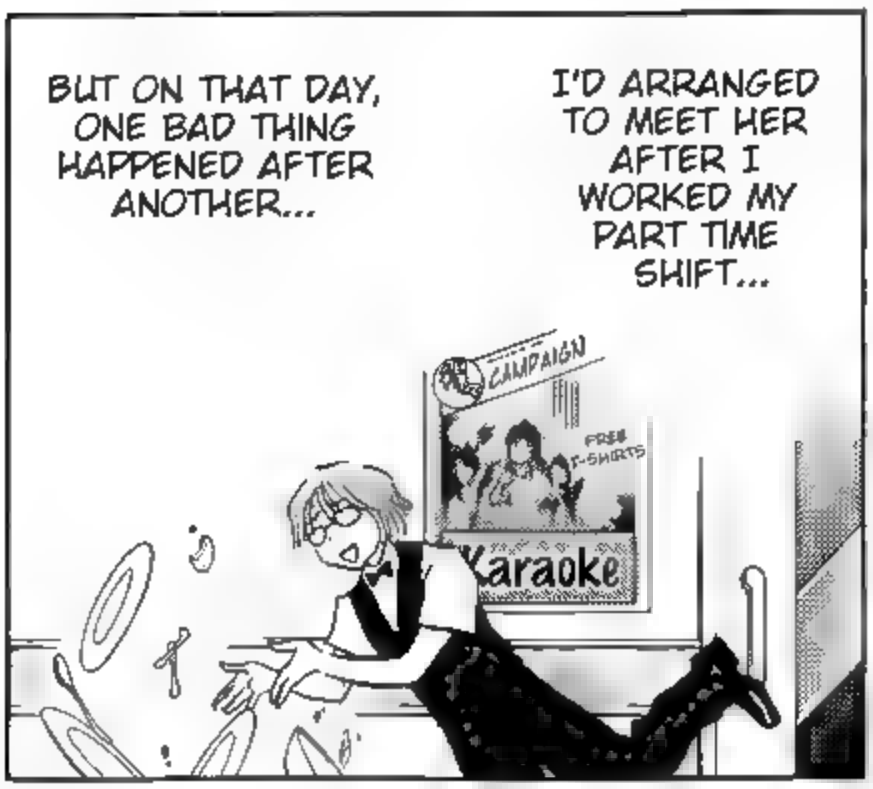


JUST WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED?

10


Spirit sedatives are Shinigami tools used in cases of spirit possession.
They put the spirit to sleep, allowing the victim's consciousness to be called out.
NNN

11


BUT ON THAT DAY, ONE BAD THING HAPPENED AFTER ANOTHER...
I'D ARRANGED TO MEET HER AFTER I WORKED MY PART TIME SHIFT...
CAMPAIGN
FREE T-SHIRTS
Karaoke

*KOUHAI = UNDERCLASSMAN

AND BY THE TIME I GOT THERE...

"ZOOM."

DAMMIT, MY PHONE'S OUT OF CHARGE!

I ENDED UP BEING REALLY LATE.

WHAT...?

THE TRUTH IS, THERE WAS SOMETHING I WANTED TO GIVE HER...

SADA MUST BE PRETTY MAD AT ME.

"SIGH."

SHE'D ALREADY GONE.

I WAS LOST IN THOUGHTS LIKE THAT, WHEN...

I WANT TO MEET HER...

I WANT TO MEET HER.

WOULD IT BE INAPPROP-RIATE TO VISIT HER AT HOME NOW?

12

"CHIRPING"

"BUZZ"

ONLY SEVEN DAYS OF LUUUURVE!!

"CHIRP"

IT WOKE UP.

"CHIRPING"

WANNA~ MEEEET~ HER~!

The life cycle of the large brown cicada.

The larvae spend 6 years underground.

The lifespan of the adult is only 7-10 days.

Within this time it has to quickly fall in love and start a new family.

あはは HA HA!

UFU FU ふふふ

13

IT DIED, BUT REJECTED DEATH.

I SEE. SO BASICALLY,

"CHIRPING"

"CHUGGA" "CHUGGA" "CHUGGA"

TOOOOO SHOORT~!

I WANT TO MEET HER...

SIGH

BECAUSE ITS STRONG REGRET TOWARDS ITS GIRL LINGERED.

IT COULDN'T PASS ON,

AND ZAITSU-SENPAI HAPPENED TO PASS BY JUST THEN, SO...

WE HEARD THE STORY.

ZIP

MY SENPAI DOESN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND...?

OH, SO DOES THAT MEAN...

THEIR SOULS RESONATED IN SYMPATHY.

I WANNA MEET HER.

THE CICADA WAS TALKING ABOUT HIS GIRLFRIEND...

INSTEAD OF YOU,

YOU CAN RELAX.

SO SHE'S CALLED YUMI.

ざざざざ

•CHIRPING•

I WANNA MEET YUMI~! YOU!!

HERE...

ZAITSU-SENPAI.

SADA.

•WOBBLY• がく

SO NOISY.

すき •JAB•

I WANTED TO GIVE THIS TO YOU THEN.

SORRY FOR BEING LATE THAT DAY.

15

SENPAI...

"POP"

EXACTLY.
IT DESTABILIZED THE SOUL RESONANCE WITH THE CICADA.
I SEE... BECAUSE ZAITSU-SENPAI FULFILLED HIS WISH OF MEETING WITH SADA...

ITS POWER OF POSSESSION WAS WEAKENED.
THIS IS...
IT CAME OFF!?

WE NEED TO SEPARATE THEM PROPERLY BEFORE IT CAN PASS ON!

DAMN, THIS IS BAD!

HE'S REALLY STUCK ON.

NOT SO FAST!

"GRAB"

"CHIRPING"

...IT'S NOT LETTING GO OF HIM!

"CHIRPING"

MY UNFULFILLED SOUL WILL JUST SEARCH FOR ANOTHER BODY TO POSSESS!

EVEN IF I'M SEPARATED FROM THIS BODY,

17

I THINK SHE'LL HAVE ALREADY BEEN REBORN BY NOW.

YES,

SHE'S A CICADA, AFTER ALL.

YOUR GIRLFRIEND YUMI-SAN WILL HAVE ALREADY PASSED ON TO THE OTHER WORLD.

"CHIRP"

EVEN IF YOU REMAIN IN THIS WORLD...

BUT THE THING IS,

"CHIRP"
じ

"POP"
すぽん

HE CAME BACK!?

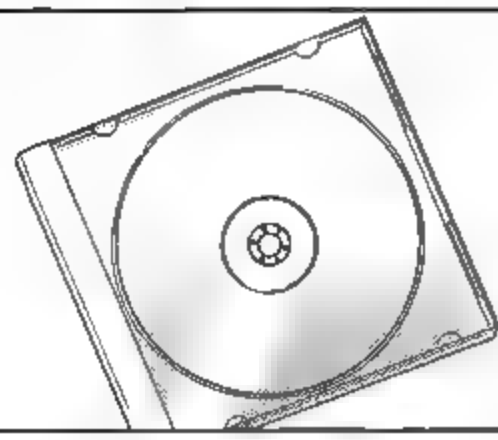
JUST ONE MORE LOVE SONG BEFORE I PASS ON!

NAH, WE'RE GOOD.

"CHUGGA"
じゃかじゃん
"CHUGGA"

And so the cicada passed on.

Was a love song to her from the heart.



The self-penned song Zaitsu-senpai gave to Sada-san

IT'S REALLY GOOD!

"ELATED"
うっとり

IT'S AT A SEMI-PRO* LEVEL!

YEAH, I GET THAT A LOT.

*JAPANESE PUN: CICADA = SEMI

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CHAPTER 160

THE INFINITE GRUDGE

"STARE"

HUH?

2

"RNN-N-N-N-N-N"

WHAT'S WITH THIS FREAKY CHAINSAW SCYTHE?

"U-N-N-N-N" ふふふふ

IT'S THE MIKAZUKI STORE'S NEW PRODUCT.

PLEASE EXORCISE IT FOR US.

BOWING

WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO SELL IT, YOU STUPID SCUM.

I GOT NO MONEY.

I AIN'T BUY-ING.

FOR SOME REASON, THE BUYER QUICKLY RETURNED IT.

I WANT A REFUND, NOW!!

NOT LONG AFTER THIS LATEST MODEL WENT ON SALE, SOMEONE BOUGHT ONE, BUT...

RINNE, I'M HERE TO SEE YOU~!

みつ

APPEARS

AFTER THAT WE KEPT SELLING AND SELLING IT, BUT IT KEPT GETTING QUICKLY RETURNED.

WHY?

SHINE

キラーン

RNN-N-N-N

ズバババ

HUH?

なっ

HEY, THIS IS *NICE!*

I'LL BUY IT!

SOLD.

OI, YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

WE'RE RUNNING A BUSINESS HERE.

THANKS A LOT!

ALRIGHT!

POLISHING

キュッキュッ

GOOD AS NEW!

AGEHA,
WHAT DO YOU WANT?

GRIN

WHA?

SLAM

RUNN-NN!

DUST SETTLING

WHAT'S GOING ON?

I'M NOT REALLY SURE, BUT THE SHINIGAMI WHO BUYS THAT SCYTHE...

"KA-BOOM"

WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU, YOU DUMB BIMBO!?

"CRUNCH"

WHY ARE YOU JUST CALMLY STANDING AROUND AND GAWKING!?

"GRIPPING"

"TAP"

"TAP"

HUH.

FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON THEY END UP ATTACKING OTHER SHINIGAMI SCYTHES.

6

DON'T DO IT RINNE-SAMA!

FOR HOW MUCH?

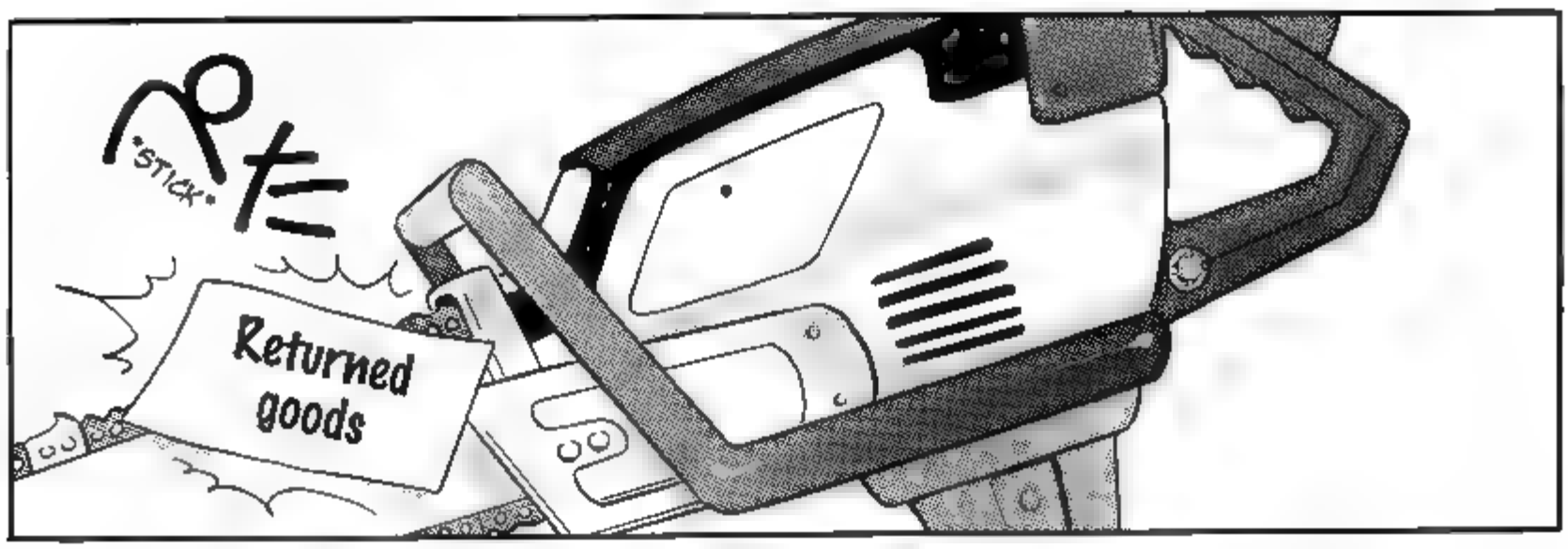
"WRITHING"

NOT EVEN IF WE LET YOU BUY IT ON CREDIT?

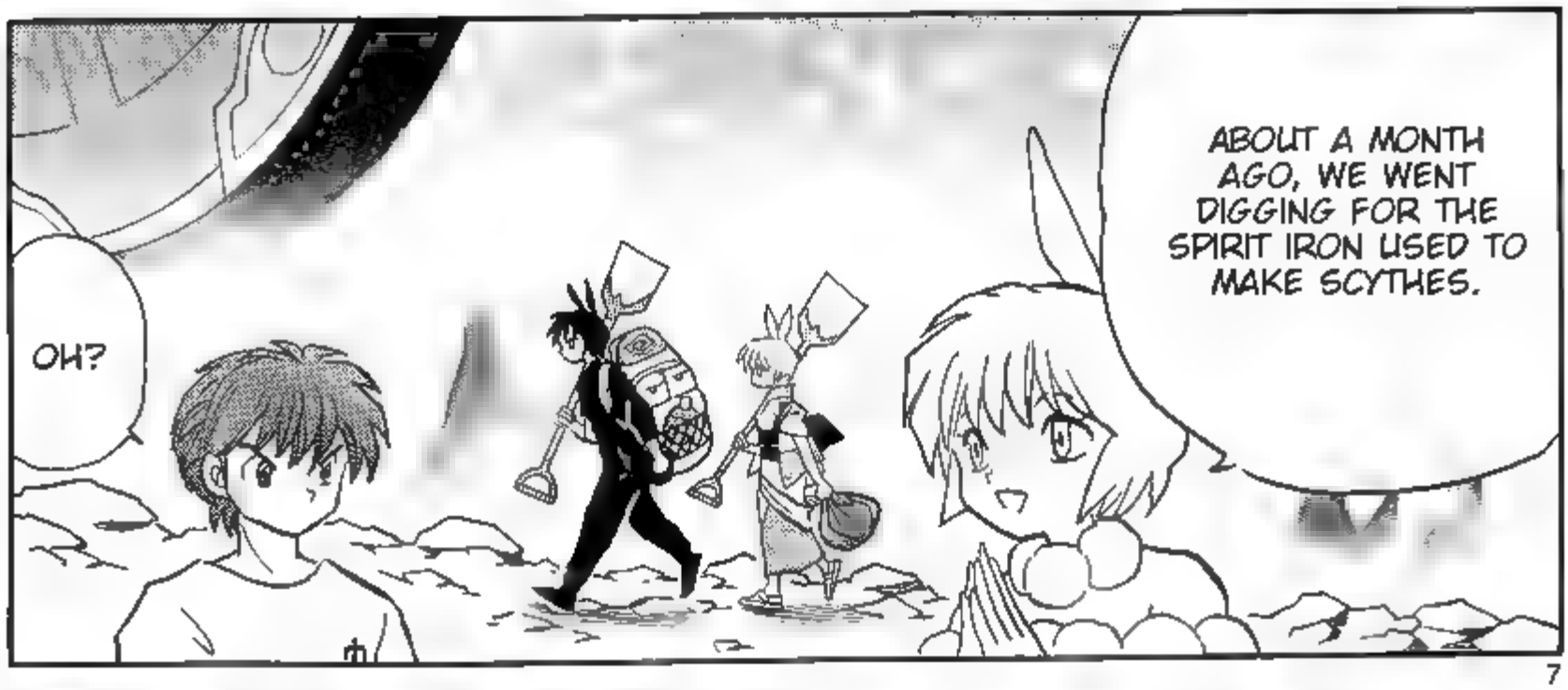
GOOD THING A BROKE GUY LIKE ME WOULD NEVER BUY IT.

FOR SURE...

THAT SCYTHE MIGHT BE CURSED.


STICK
Returned goods

JUST WHO THE HELL IS BOGUS, YOU STUPID SCUM!?
TAKE YOUR COMPLAINTS DIRECTLY TO THESE BOGUS SCYTHE MERCHANTS!!
PAY FOR WHAT YOU DAMAGED!


OH?
ABOUT A MONTH AGO, WE WENT DIGGING FOR THE SPIRIT IRON USED TO MAKE SCYTHES.

7

EVIL SPIRIT PURIFICATION GROUNDS
AUTHORISED PERSONNEL ONLY
KEEP OUT!
FLAPPING ばた ばた
WHOOSH ひゅ〜

HUH.

THERE WAS SOMETHING WAS ENTICING ME TO TO GO THROUGH THE FENCE.

THE FENCE IS BROKEN HERE.

EVIL SPIRIT PURIFICATION GROUNDS

HEY LEFT, THIS SAYS "EVIL SPIRIT PURIFI-CATION GROUNDS".

CLANG

CLANG

CLANG

I WORKED THE SPIRIT METAL I DUG OUT FOR THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS WITHOUT FOOD OR DRINK.

8

IT'S OBVIOUSLY SUSPICIOUS NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, ISN'T IT?

SMACK

I POURED MY VERY HEART AND SOUL INTO MAKING THIS SCYTHE, YOU STUPID SCUM!

BACK THEN, HE WAS WORKING LIKE HE WAS POSSESSED!

SO BASICALLY, YOU MADE IT WITH SPIRIT METAL THAT WAS CONTAMINATED WITH EVIL SPIRITS...?

IT'S NO WONDER IT ATTACKS OTHER SHINIGAMI SCYTHES.

QUITE.

The first purification happens in this world.

Evil Spirit

Shinigami Scythe

Shinigami

Some Other World trivia regarding Evil Spirit purification:

9

SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT BEFORE THE EVIL SPIRITS ARE COMPLETELY PURIFIED, THEY WOULD WANT TO CURSE SHINIGAMI SCYTHES.

HOW DREAD-FUL!

Rein-carn-ation

The final purification happens in the Other World purification grounds.

OI.

SOLD.

I'LL BUY IT.

ON CREDIT.

YOU COULD CALL THIS IS AN ANTI-SHINIGAMI SCYTHE.

HMPH, IT'S OBVIOUS, ISN'T IT?

ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO SOMETHING EVIL WITH THAT SCYTHE!?

WHAT'S THE DEAL, RENGE...?

EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO TAKE OUT A LOAN!?

"RUU-RU-U-U-U"

ROKU-DOU,

IT MIGHT BE YOUR SCYTHE!

IF ANY OF THEM GET IN THE WAY OF MY DAMASHIGAMI ACTIVITIES, I CAN JUST SMASH THEIR SCYTHE!

FOR EXAM-PLE,

SO...

YOU SAY THAT AFTER SELLING IT TO HER!?

WHAT A TERRIBLE SCYTHE!

SHE MUST ALSO BE UNDER ITS SPELL!

"TWINKLE"

HOW MUCH ARE YOU GONNA PAY ME TO EXORCISE IT!?

DAMN YOU.

WELL IT'S NOT OUR PROBLEM, NOW THAT WE'VE SOLD IT.

ISN'T THAT WHY YOU CAME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

HUH!?

11

"PSSH"

UGH!?

Separating incense spray is a Shinigami tool to extract evil spirits from people or things.

"PSHHH"

EAT SEPARATING INCENSE SPRAY!

STOP IT, AGEHA...!

IDIOT!

"WHOOSH"

"BUZZING"

!

A BIG SWARM OF EVIL SPIRITS...!

AH!

"BOOM"

"N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N"

"SCHING"

DAMN...!

TIME FOR AN EXORCISM!!

"DISSIPATE"

HMPH! I WIN...

"CLANG"
"SNAP"
あぶ
ぎぼ
"CHOMP"
かしかしかしかし
"CHOMP"
ばた
"THUD"
DUMB BIMBO!
"RNN-RN-N-N"
!
ALRIGHT ROKUDOU,
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!
"POKE"
"BZZZ"
"BZZZ"
14
IT'S LIKE AN INFINITE CURSE!
THOUGH THE SEPARATING INCENSE TOOK OUT A BUNCH OF THE SPIRITS, THERE'S STILL SO MANY OF THEM LEFT IN THE SCYTHE...

I HOPE YOU'RE READY!

LUNGING

DAMN!

EVADES

I THINK I HIT SOMETHING!

APPEARS

CRASH

GRINDING

ROKUDOU RINNE!

EMERGES みょ～ん

THE IS A LIFE ADMINI-STRATION BUREAU SITE INSPECTION!

DUST SETTLING ごごご

SHINIGAMI CLERK KAIN!

YOU JUST CAN'T HELP YOURSELF, CAN YOU!?

CLASHING ギリギリ

LOOK AROUND YOU.

16

THERE'S YOUR CULPRIT!

WHAT HAPPENED, RENGE!?

KA... KAIN-SENPAI...

HUH!?

I WAS POSSESSED BY A CURSED SCYTHE MADE BY THIS SHADY DUO...

NO, AND DON'T GO SPREADING SUCH NASTY RUMORS.

YOU ILLEGALLY DUG UP CURSED SPIRIT IRON FROM THE EVIL SPIRIT PURIFICATION GROUNDS, DIDN'T YOU!?

ガクリ BLEH

ARE YOU PLAYING DEAD NOW?

17

SHINE ピカーン

GRAB ぐっ

I'M CONFISCATING THIS!

じゃ
"PSSH"
SEPAR-ATING INCEN-SE!
がらら
"CHUGGA" "CHUGGA"
UGH
はっ
ど
"BAM"
DON'T TOUCH IT!

THERE'S ALMOST NOTHING LEFT...
DAMN,
"CRUNCH"
かりかり
"CRUNCH"
SHE REALLY IS A BIMBO, ISN'T SHE?
OH WOULD YOU HURRY AND CLEAN THIS MESS UP, YOU STUPID BUREAUCRAT!?
かりかりり
"MUNCH" "MUNCH"
"MUNCH"
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
UGH, I WANNA TELL HER OFF SO BADLY...
"IRRITATED"
むかむか

WE'RE BEING SHUT DOWN, YOU STUPID SCUM.
YOU'RE REPAIRING THIS FOR FREE.

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CHAPTER 161

THE HANDS FROM THE TATAMI MAT

I ACCOMPANIED MIHO-CHAN TO THE TEA CEREMONY CLUB TODAY.

2 *SEIZA = THE FORMAL (AND REALLY UNCOMFORTABLE) WAY OF SITTING ON YOUR ANKLES.

WHAT DOES?

I HEARD SOME-THING APPEARS THERE...

TO BE HONEST,

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I'VE HEARD THAT LOTS OF TEA CEREMONY MEMBERS ARE QUITTING RECENTLY...

I WONDER WHAT'S CAUSING IT...?

DAMN, NOTHING'S APPEARED YET.

NOT GOOD... MY LEGS HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP...

"FIDGETTING"

"FIDGETTING"

!?

"RUSTLING"

UGH... I JUST WANNA GO HOME...

MY LEGS ARE GOING NUMB...

"NUMB"

"TINGLING"

"SHOCK"

KYAA...

"RUSTLING"

KYAAAAA!

"PRICKLY."

"PRICKLY."

"PRICKLY."

HUH!?

"FLINCH"

AND THEY'RE GOING AFTER MY NUMB LEGS!

THERE ARE HANDS COMING OUT OF THE TATAMI MATS...

"RUSTLING"

TATAMI = TRADITIONAL JAPANESE STRAW MATS MADE FROM RICE STRAW

"SCRAMBLING"
しかしかしか
"NUMB" じんじん
びりびり "NUMB"
WE'RE LEAVING~!
WAI-
AH!
"ASLEEP" じんじん
THEY LEFT...
NOT AGAIN...
NO THANKS.
WILL YOU JOIN OUR CLUB!?
OH, YOU STAYED WITH US!
HANDS COMING FROM THE TATAMI MATS?

I CONFIRMED IT WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS WHO QUIT.

YEAH, JUST RECENTLY.

SUDDENLY IT GOT REALLY UNPLEASANT TO SIT SEIZA STYLE.

Tea Ceremony Club

Once again at the Tea Ceremony club

6

NO THANKS.

WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU!

YOU'RE THINKING OF JOINING?

YES, AND SPECIFICALLY THE MAT I'M SITTING ON NOW.

THAT'S WHY I'M SITTING ON IT.

IT'S BECAUSE OF THE TATAMI MATS...?

OR ARE THEY LESS LIVELY THAN THEY WERE BEFORE?

HUH...?

IS IT JUST ME...

"RUSTLING"

EVERYONE QUIT IMMEDIATELY AFTER SITTING ON THAT MAT.

YOU KNOW, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

7

HMM, NO IT DOESN'T FEEL MALEVOLENT.

CURSED...?

THAT TATAMI MAT IS CURSED...?

DON'T TELL ME...

じ～～…
STARE
HUH?
EH...?
I THINK IT'S ALWAYS BEEN IN THE CLUBROOM.
HOW LONG HAS THIS TATAMI MAT BEEN HERE?
RATTLING
がたがた
ぶるぶる
TREMBLING
はーはー
BREATHING
I... I...
じ～～…
STARE
Tea Ceremony club member, Tatami Arata.
OH, TATAMI-KUN.
CAN I HELP YOU WITH ANYTHING?
SLIDE
スー
FLEE
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING~!

WAI-!
A!!!
DASH
THAT GUY KNOWS SOMETHING!
NO, I THINK HIS LEGS JUST FELL ASLEEP.
AH!? IS THIS ALSO BECAUSE OF THE CURSE!?
AAAARGH!
FALL
NUMB
TRIP
PRICKLY
SIGH...
THE ONLY MALE MEMBER.
TATAMI-KUN. HE'S A CLUB MEMBER.
SO WHO IS THAT GUY...?
9
COULD THIS ALL BE MY FAULT...?
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING...

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND.

I JUST...

MOVED THE MATS AROUND.

カミカミ "TREMBLING"

I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING ABOUT A CURSE!

DID YOU CURSE THE TATAMI MAT IN THE CLUBROOM?

IS THIS YOUR DOING, TATAMI-KUN ?

ずかずか "RUDELY"

10

I WAS SECRETLY RELAXING IN THE CLUB ROOM DURING LUNCH BREAK ONE DAY.

I LOVE TATAMI ROOMS.

コロコロ "ROLLING"

AAAH! SO COMFOR-TABLE!

HE MOVED THE MATS...?

By the way, the pastry was curry bread and a chocolate cornet.

I SAW THAT I HAD CRUSHED THE PASTRIES AND MILK I BROUGHT FOR LUNCH.

THE TATAMI MAT WAS A SOGGY MESS.

DELICIOUS MILK

WHEN I WOKE UP,

I NODDED OFF AT THE TIME.

AAAH!

HE MUST BE A RESTLESS SLEEPER!

HE'S A MONSTER!!

HE CRUSHED THE PAS-TRIES!?

11

I THINK THAT'LL DO.

SO I MOVED THE MAT AROUND TO THE EDGE OF THE ROOM.

FLIPPING

りめり

GRRRR!

I JUST COULDN'T GET IT CLEAN...

OH MAN, I'VE DONE IT NOW...

CLEANING

ごごご

KYAA, HOW HORRID!

SO THIS TATAMI MAT USED TO BE ON THE EDGE OF THE ROOM?

HIDING YOUR MESS!?

WHAT ARE YOU, AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLER!?

I WAS TOO SCARED TO SAY ANYTHING...

BUT AFTER THAT, CLUB MEMBERS STARTED TO LEAVE...

12

IT'S A LARGE-TYPE TSUKU-MOGAMI SEAL.

WHAT'S THAT ROKUDOU-KUN...?

PATTING

TRUE.

FLIP

I UNDERSTAND... BUT IF ANYTHING, SHOULDN'T THE DIRTY TATAMI MAT BE THE ONE FULL OF RESENTMENT?

AND YET ...

RAWR!

Tsukumogami seals are Shinigami tools used to infuse objects with souls.

IT SEEMS THIS ONE IS CURSED TOO...

"BAM" "BAM" "BAM"

I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY!

"BOING"

YOU'RE AN IDIOT!!

13

LOOKS LIKE IT JUST HAD TO FURIOUSLY VENT AND GET AN APOLOGY TO BE SATISFIED.

IT CALMED DOWN...

PHEW

THIS TATAMI MAT WAS AIMING FOR NUMB LEGS...

I WONDER IF THE SAME TRICK WILL WORK.

BUT I DIDN'T SENSE ANY MALICE BEHIND IT.

SURE. BUT...

QUICKLY NOW!

THEN LET'S DO THE SAME THING WITH THIS TATAMI MAT!

THIS ONE'S FEELS MORE LIKE, HMM, HOW TO PUT IT...

PATTING

UNLIKE THE DIRTY TATAMI MAT, WHOSE REGRET WAS BASED ON FURY...

LIGHTS UP

EH...

I'LL GIVE AN EXTRA SPECIAL WELCOME TO ANY PRETTY YOUNG GIRLS!

わくわく *EXCITED*

MMMM~ COME ON, SIT ON ME!

RUSTLING わさわさ

IT WAS JOY.

YEAH, THAT'S IT...

15

DUE TO WHERE THIS TATAMI WAS KEPT...

THE CAUSE IS PROBABLY

...WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

AT THE EDGE OF THE ROOM, THE ONLY THINGS THAT WOULD BE PUT ON IT WOULD BE THINGS LIKE SHELVES AND TOOLS.

IT WASN'T REALLY IN A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WOULD SIT ON IT.

THIS TATAMI MAT JUST WANTS PEOPLE TO SIT ON IT.

IN OTHER WORDS,

FOR LEGS NUMB FROM SITTING SEIZA STYLE.

RIGHT, BUT THAT'S TOO MUCH

PUSHING わっしょい わっしょい

PUSHING わっしょい

AND SO WHEN SOMEONE FINALLY DOES SIT ON IT, IT'S SO HAPPY IT WANTS TO THROW THEM INTO THE AIR...

16

AND IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT, GO AHEAD AND WALK ALL OVER ME TOO!

わくわく *EXCITED*

MMM, I WANNA HAVE YOUNG GIRLS SITTING ON ME!

ABOUT THAT...

HOW WILL YOU DO THE EXORCISM?

UMM, SO ANYWAY...

THAT OTHER MAT WAS SATISFIED JUST BY FULFILLING ITS LONG-DESIRED AMBITION TO BEAT THE STUFFING OUT OF THIS GUY.

SO SATISFYING THIS ONE MEANS YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO SIT ON IT, AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN...

NO, YOU GOTTA WALK ALL OVER ME TOO...!

17

CATEGOR-ICALLY IMPOSSIBLE.

NO, I THINK THAT WOULD BE...

YOU'LL SIT ON IT EVERYDAY, RIGHT?

I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO IT.

IT CAN'T BE HELPED,

The Tea Ceremony club just got rid of the mat.

I MADE OUT LIKE A BANDIT THIS TIME!

HMPH, RECEIVING ONE TATAMI MAT AS PAYMENT FOR EXORCISM...

Incidentally, all the Tea Ceremony members returned.

I GOT SICK OF HIM ASKING FOR GIRLS SO I SENT HIM TO THE OTHER WORLD.

"SIGH"

HUH? WHERE'S THE MAT?

AND I'VE BEEN WAITING SO LONG FOR A THREE TATAMI MAT ROOM...

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CHAPTER 162

THE CURSED CASHBOX

SO BY THE TIME HE WENT HOME IT WAS COMPLETELY DARK.

ざあ…
WHOOSH

AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES HAD DRAGGED ON FOR THE SECOND YEAR STUDENT A-KUN,

HE SAW SOMETHING SHINING...

ボク
SHOOM

AND WHEN HE TOOK A SHORTCUT THROUGH THE PARK,

A!!

BOOM

PUT IN SOME MONEY~!

BAM

NO MATTER WHERE HE RAN IT KEPT CHASING AFTER HIM.

2

BUT THE MOST DREADFUL THING OF ALL WAS...

A SHADOWY HUMAN FIGURE WAS STANDING.

IN THE GLOOM BEHIND THE SHINING OBJECT...

AND THEN?

REALLY?

APPARENTLY HE WAS ALLOWED TO LEAVE AFTER HE PAID SOME MONEY.

"RUSTLING LEAVES"

I'VE RECEIVED DOZENS OF LETTERS FROM PEOPLE WHO'VE SUFFERED THE SAME FATE.

YES, AND ADDITION-ALLY...
LOADS OF PEOPLE...
SO MONEY WAS TAKEN FROM THEM ALL.

HMM.
"OUTRAGED"
THEY TOOK STAGGERINGLY HUGE AMOUNTS FROM EACH PERSON, LIKE ¥500 OR ¥1,000*...

*$5 OR $10

PUT SOME MONEY IN~!

4

"SHOOM"

"BAM"

MOOOONEEEY!

*MANEKI NEKO (BECKONING CAT) = GOOD LUCK TALISMAN BELIEVED TO DRAW IN GOOD LUCK (AND CASH) OFTEN SEEN DISPLAYED IN SHOP AND RESTAURANT ENTRANCES

EHHH...!? A MANEKI-NEKO!?

"SCHINK"

HE'S TRYING TO HIDE INSIDE A SPIRIT ROAD!

AND THERE'S A SHADOWY FIGURE BEHIND IT!

"BOOM"

IT'S HARD!

DAMN!

"SHOCK"

"SLICE"

"SWING"

HIYAH~!

6

HMPH...

"WOOSH"

WON'T LEAVE ONE SCRATCH ON THIS CURSED CASHBOX.

RINNE...

YOU SHOULD KNOW YOUR SHINIGAMI SCYTHE...

ROKUDOU'S OLD MAN!?

EH...

JUST HEAR ME OUT.

*HISSING うぅ

LEAVE THIS WORLD RIGHT NOW.

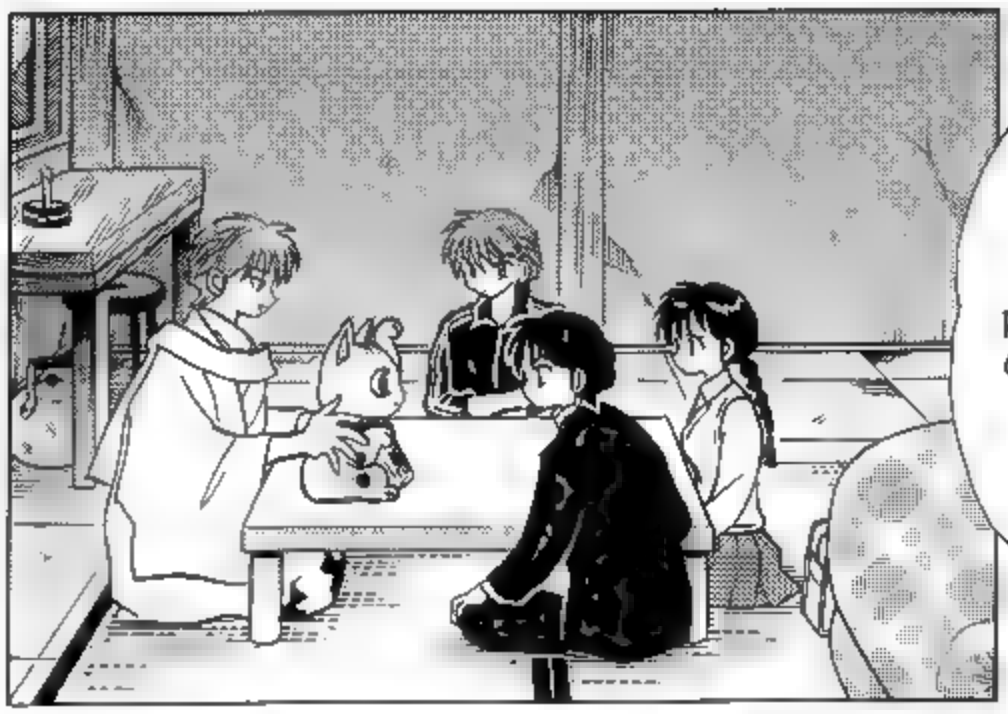
NOT REALLY.

WHY PAPA IS DOING THIS, RIGHT?

RINNE, I SUPPOSE YOU WANNA KNOW

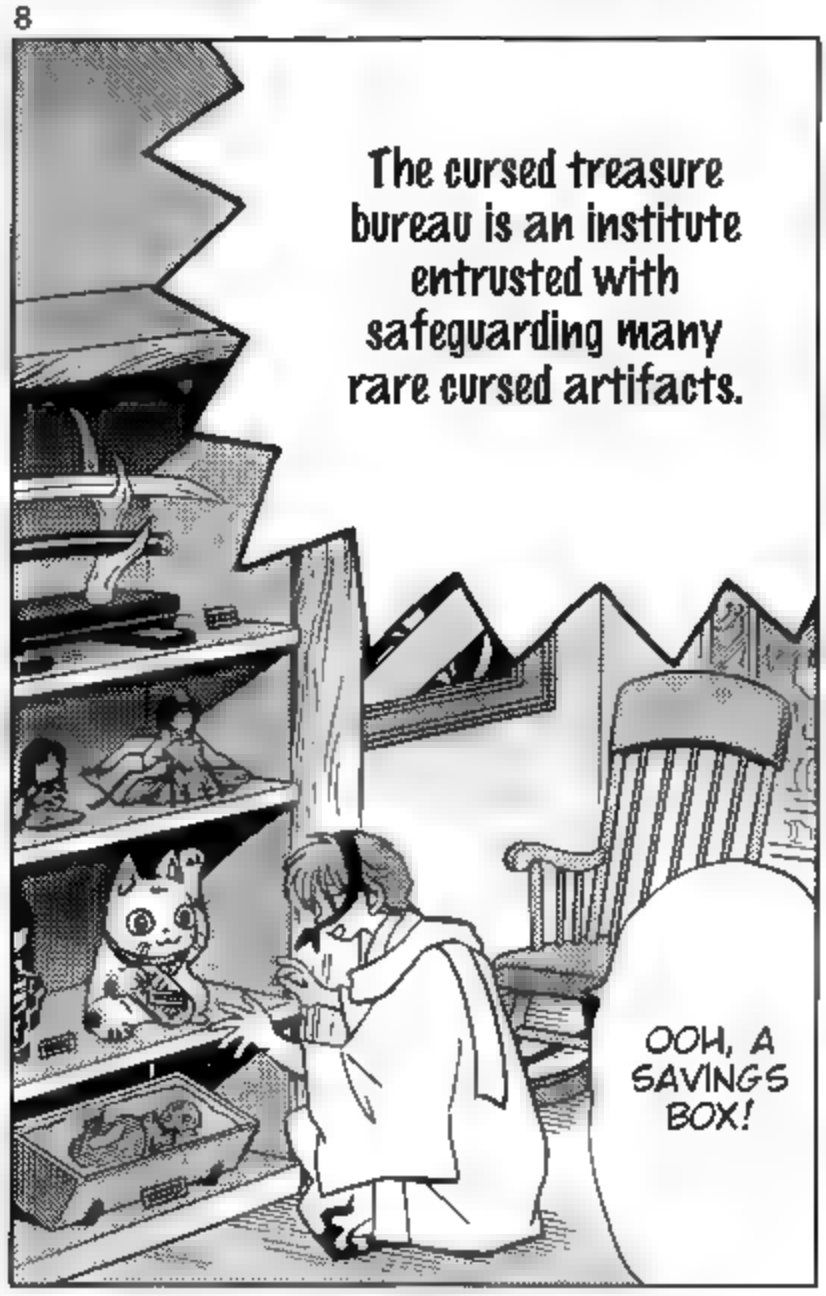
IS ACTUALLY A CURSED MONEY BOX?

UMM... SO THAT THING THAT LOOKS LIKE A MANEKI-NEKO



IT HAPPENED A FEW DAYS AGO.
I HAPPENED TO COME INTO POSSESSION OF A CURSED CASHBOX BY CHANCE.

BY CHANCE?
DON'T JUST GLOSS OVER THE DETAILS.


The cursed treasure bureau is an institute entrusted with safeguarding many rare cursed artifacts.
OOH, A SAVINGS BOX!

APPEARS
WANTED POSTER
RINNE-SAMA, IT SEEMS SOME THIEF BROKE INTO THE CURSED TREASURE BUREAU!
I SEE.
SO THEN WHAT HAPPENED?
GRAB

MY HANDS WERE STUCK IN THIS POSITION.

I NOTICED ...

BUT THAT'S WHEN...

LUCKY!

JANGLE ちゃりん ちゃりん *SHAKE*

AND IT STILL HAS SOMETHING INSIDE!

A SPIRITUAL EXPLOSION?

NOTES

WANTED POSTER

IF YOU TRY TO PULL YOURSELF FREE BEFORE THEN, THERE WILL BE A SPIRITUAL EXPLOSION.

IT SEEMS YOU CAN ONLY LET GO OF IT ONCE IT'S TOTALLY FULL.

AND OF COURSE, THE PERSON HOLDING CURSED MONEY BOX WOULDN'T EXACTLY COME OUT OF IT UNSINGED AS WELL.

ALL THE MONEY WOULD EXPLODE, BE PURIFIED, AND THEN VANISH INTO THE AFTERLIFE.

9

HOLD ON.

THE ONLY WAY IS TO COLLECT ENOUGH MONEY TO FILL IT UP.

PHEW (3)...

SO WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP...?

THAT'D BE JUST AWFUL.

STANDING
IT SEEMS SPENDING HIS OWN MONEY IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
OI.
SO THE ONLY WAY IS TO COLLECT MONEY FROM THE OTHER STUDENTS.
IF YOU PAY ¥10,000* OF YOU'RE OWN MONEY, YOU'LL BE SEPARATED.
THERE'S ANOTHER WAY YOU CAN DO IT.
*ABOUT $100
COULDN'T YOU JUST ASK YOUR EMPLOYEES TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION...?
BUT YOU'RE THE PRESIDENT OF THE DAMASHIGAMI COMPANY.

YEAH! YEAH!
Labor Union
YOU'D HAVE TO PAY US ALL OUR UNPAID WAGES FIRST!
BUT,
OF COURSE, THAT WAS THE FIRST THING I DID.
10
SO,
HOW MUCH MORE UNTIL IT'S FULL?

EAGERLY
ズイーん

HUH?

YOU MEAN YOU'LL GIVE ME SOME!?

THIS COUNTER SAYS IT NEEDS ANOTHER ¥5,000 UNTIL IT'S FULL.

WHAT'S WITH THIS COUNTER THING?

5,000 ...

0¥5000

WHAT!?

JUMP FOR ME. HEY,

HMM?

STARING
じろじろ

手配書

説明

WELL, IT'S JUST THAT THERE'S A PHOTO ATTACHED TO THESE NOTES THAT WERE DISTRIBUTED.

WHOOSH

Stolen goods: Cashbox

NOW WHY WOULD YOU SAY THAT?

INCHING AWAY

POKE

AND THE COUNTER ON HERE SAYS 5,000.

12

NUDGE

OI, DIDN'T YOU ALREADY GET SOME MONEY FROM LOADS OF STUDENTS?

EH...!?

IT HASN'T CHANGED?

ちゃりーん
CLINKING
ちゃりん
CLINKING
ちゃりーん
CLINKING
500
FAITH

すら
QUICKLY
FOURTEEN ¥500 COINS...
SO ¥7,000.
HE COUNTED IT IN THAT INSTANT?

YOU'VE ALREADY COLLECTED MUCH MORE THAN THE ¥5,000.
WHY DIDN'T YOU PUT IT INSIDE THE CURSED CASHBOX?
IT SEEMED LIKE SUCH A WASTE...

13

AT ANY RATE, THAT MONEY IS GOING TO BE RETURNED TO THE VICTIMS...
HUH? YOU'RE RETURNING IT?
じゃらん
KA-CHING
ベシ
SLAM

"WHOOSH"

!

"ZOOM"

JINGLING

DAMN, THE ¥500 COINS HAVE BEEN SUCKED AWAY TOO!!

HE FLED INTO A SPIRIT ROAD!

14

NO...

HE HAS THE MONEY FOR THE TIME BEING...

MAYBE HE GAVE UP AND HEADED BACK.

HE'S GONE!

THAT'S THE KINDA GUY MY OLD MAN IS!

SINCE HE'S REALIZED HE CAN MAKE MONEY FROM THE CURSED MONEY BOX, HE'LL GO BACK TO THE REAL WORLD TO EARN MORE!

SHOVE

OI.

Cross-section

Real world

Spirit Road

WHOOSH

JUMPING

!

A DUMMY!?

THUD

HUH!?

"WHOOSH"

THAT'S WHAT...

16

I WANTED TO SAY!!

"SMACK"

RINNE, YOUR PAPA CAN EASILY SEE THROUGH YOUR WAY OF THINKING!

"SWING"

EAT THIS!

AND IT WAS LAUNCHED OFF INTO THE DISTANCE!

IT WAS KNOCKED OUT HIS HANDS!

THAT MEANS NO ONE SHOULD BE CAUGHT IN THE SPIRITUAL BLAST WHEN THE BOMB GOES OFF!

SPINNING

AH!

PULSING

BRILLIANT

I CAN'T LET ALL THAT MONEY INSIDE BE PURIFIED INTO NOTHING!

CRACKLING

YOU CAN'T GO!

EAGERLY

"BLAMMO"

"CRACKLING"

LET'S HEAD BACK.

IT'S SO PRETTY ...

IT'S LIKE A FIREWORK DISPLAY.

Beautiful Secretary

THEY'RE QUITE PROFITABLE, AFTER ALL.

YOU WANT TO SELL COUNTERFEIT GOODS?

PRES-IDENT,

Rinne's father wasn't purified.

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CHAPTER 143

OPEN AFTER 7 DAYS

A mysterious rattling has been bothering the Shinigami Ageha for a few days now.

THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING ABOVE THE CEILING.

SEARCH FOR IT THOROUGHLY, OBORO

CLATTERING

2

AGEHA-SAMA, THIS STRANGE BOX WAS THERE.

*WHOOSH

Open after seven days

Seal

OPEN AFTER SEVEN DAYS...?

HANG ON, ISN'T IT...

THIS IS MY HANDWRITING FROM BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

HOW CUTE!

THIS TAKES ME BACK!

SUCH BAD HAND-WRITING.

THIS IS...

3

GETTING BIGGER?

むくむくむく

SHAKING

"BLAMMO"

Ach after seven days

"FLUTTERING"

"BAM"

"CRASH"

...SOME-THING GOT AWAY.

4

AH,

MAYBE THAT'S WHAT IT WAS!

ぽん "THUMP"

HUH!?

ぴく
SURPRISED

I KEEP GETTING THIS BAD FEELING ...

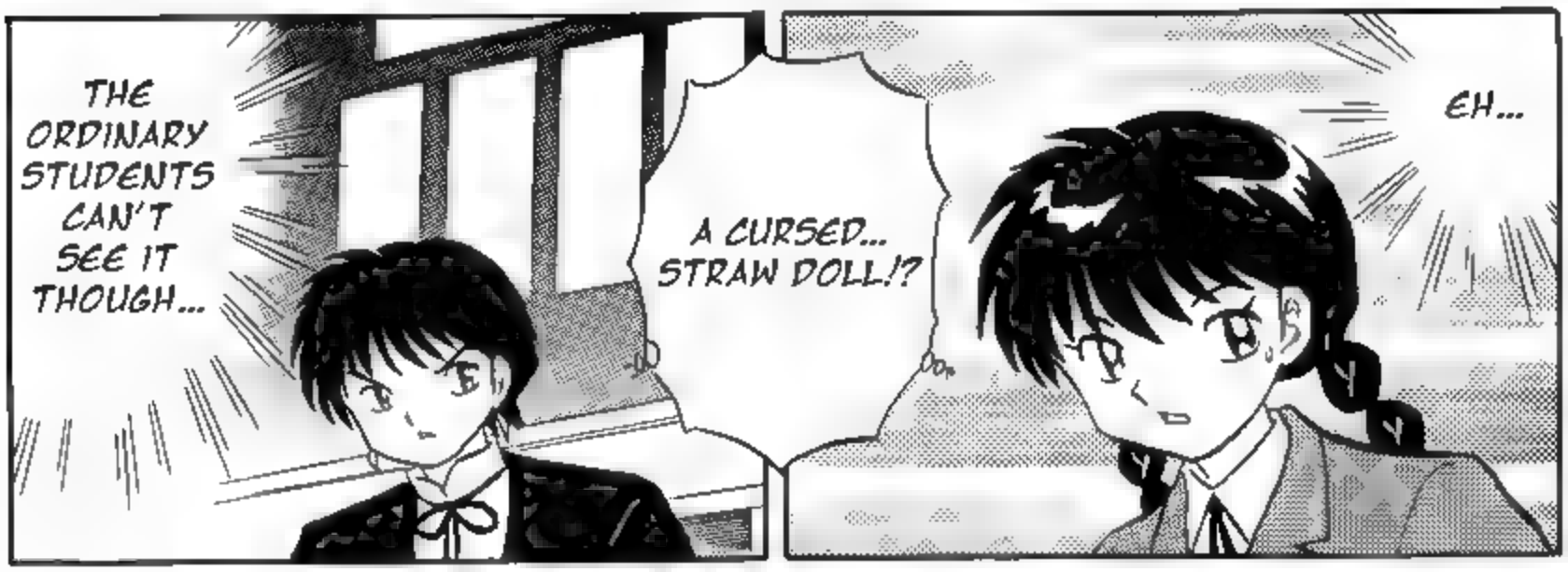
WHAT IS THIS?

IT'S AN... EVIL PRESENCE!?

"WHOOSH"

IT'S HEADING HERE FAST!

ガシャ
INTENSE


THE ORDINARY STUDENTS CAN'T SEE IT THOUGH...
A CURSED... STRAW DOLL!?
EH...

6

ISN'T THAT... A SHINIGAMI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHING AIDE!?

"SKILFULLY"

SHIMA RENGE, READ THIS ALOUD.

OKAY NEXT,

7

CLASHING

Ordinary students can't see this fight.

EH? SHE WAS JUST HERE A MOMENT AGO.

IS SHIMA ABSENT?

HUH?

"SMACK"

"BAM"

TAKE THAT!

How-ever...

"REBOUND"

"CLANG"

THE WRITING ON THE BLACK-BOARD DIS-APPEAR-ED!

"SMEAR"

8

AAAH, THIS IS AWFUL!

"SCREECHING"

Ordinary people can still feel the ill effects though!

THAT'S MY LINE!

WHY THE SUDDEN ATTACK?

THUNK

WATCHING

WE'LL BE USING THESE STRAW DOLLS.

AND NOW, WE'LL BE PRACTICING HOW TO RETURN CURSES!

Several years ago at the Shinigami Elementary school

YES MISS!

PAIR UP WITH THE PERSON SITTING NEXT TO YOU.

9

The cursed doll is placed in a box and left somewhere dark.

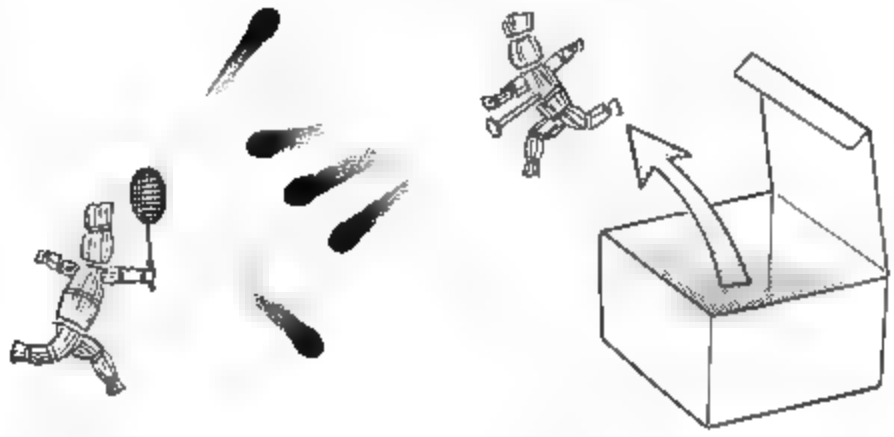
Curse Reversal Doll

Cursed Doll

Hair or a nail of the cursed partner is inside this one.

Other World Trivia: practicing returning curses

The curse is returned and destroyed, keeping the children safe.



Seven days later, the box is opened and the curse is released.

SHOULD IT BE LEFT INSIDE FOR MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS, IT WILL BECOME SOMETHING TERRIBLE!

NOW IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE PERSON PERFORMING THE CURSE TO OPEN THE BOX AFTER SEVEN DAYS.

WANDERING

YOU FORGOT TO OPEN THE BOX, DIDN'T YOU?

AGEHA...

ROLLING AROUND

ALL THAT MALICE HAS BUILT UP OVER SEVERAL YEARS UNTIL NOW ITS EVEN OPENLY ATTACKING.

HMM, YEAH I GUESS SO.

YOU DUMB BIMBO!

"THUMP"
"BAM"
"BAM"
AND YOU'RE JUST LAZING AROUND DOING NOTHING ABOUT THIS?
IT REALLY WANTS TO GET RENGE.
HMPH.
Barrier Tape

HMPH. IT'S JUST SOMETHING USED TO TEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIDS, AFTER ALL!
SO WE CAN REALLY GET ¥1,000* JUST FOR TAKING DOWN A STRAW DOLL!?
*APPROX $10
I'VE ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF IT.
"SHINK"

"THUMPING"

WHAT'S STUFFED INSIDE THE STRAW DOLL IS PROBABLY RENGE'S HAIR (FROM HER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DAYS).

IF I CAN SIMPLY PULL THAT OUT, THE CURSE WILL BE BROKEN!

"DASHING"

"THUNK"

"SLASH"

HIYAH!

WHAT!

HE CAUGHT THE BLADE WITH HIS BARE HANDS!?

OUCH.

SWELL

THUNK

WOW!

HITTING THE STRAW DOLL ALSO HURT RENGE...

AND YET...

IT'S STILL STANDING.

DAMN, I'M GONNA HAVE TO GET A LITTLE ROUGH WITH IT.

CLASHING

TRY TO ENDURE IT RENGE!

13

I'M DOING THIS TO FREE HER FROM THE CURSE!

WHAP

WHAP

WHAP

THE ¥1,000 REWARD HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT...

"PUNT"

WHY DON'T YOU GET LOST!!!

"DOOR OPENING"

ちゃっ

"SORE"

しゅう

"SMOKING"

しゅう しゅう

HUH?

DON'T TELL ME IT FEELS GRATEFUL?

"SPARKLING"

キラーン

"SWINGING"

ぶんぶんぶんぶん

"ADVANCING"

すたすた

NOPE, NOT AT ALL.

14

IT'S NOT LIKE A STRAW DOLL HAS A HEART.

YOU'RE SO STUPID, RENGE.

HMPH!

"SWOOSH"

"SWISH"

"PLUCK"

"SHINK"

SHE THREW THE HAIR INTO IT!?

EH...

"PLUNK"

15

UGH, HOW DARE YOU ATTACK YOUR MASTER!

HAH, IT'S JUST AS BRAINLESS AS YOU ARE.

CLASHING

KYAAA!

"STAB"

EH!?

"WHIZZING" びゅん びゅん

"SIZZLING" ばちばち ばちばち

TAKE THIS, YOU LITTLE TRAITOR!

"SHOCKED SILENCE" しーん

"BLAMMO" ドン

"CRACKLING" ばちばち

DID THE CURSE DO THIS, OR...?

UMM, WHAT HAPPENED ...

ROKUDOU-KUN, WHAT'S WITH THAT BAG...

I TAKE MY EYES OFF THEM FOR A SECOND, AND THERE'S A CATASTROPHE.

"FWUMP" ドサ

THIS IS WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.

THOSE ARE ...

CURSE-RETURNING DOLLS.

I BORROWED THEM FROM THE SHINIGAMI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S STOREROOM.

FOR FREE.

"PILING UP"

"BURSTING"

UGH

17

SUCH TREMEN-DOUS EVIL!!

AAAH!

WHAP *WHAP* *WHAP* *WHAP* *WHAP* *HITTING BACK*

はら

はら

HITTING BACK

And the big straw doll was quickly annihilated.

All of the curses were returned.

WHAT A LUCKY DAY!

YOU SPENT NOTHING THIS TIME AND GOT THE FULL REWARD.

HOW RARE!

ELATED

ほくほく

OH COME ON, I SAID I WAS SORRY DIDN'T I?

APPARENTLY THERE WERE LOTS OF OTHER PEOPLE JUST AS STUPID AS YOU.

THUNK

Incidentally, the study of returning curses has been abolished.

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CHAPTER 164

THE EVIL 4TH LANE

THEY WILL BE THOSE WITH THE BEST 100M SPRINT TIMES:

AS FOR THE ATHLETIC FESTIVAL'S MIXED RELAY MEMBERS,

ROKUDOU RINNE-KUN.

I ENDED UP TRYING HARDER THAN I WANTED TO.

SHIMA RENGE-SAN.

JUUMONJI TSUBASA-KUN.

2

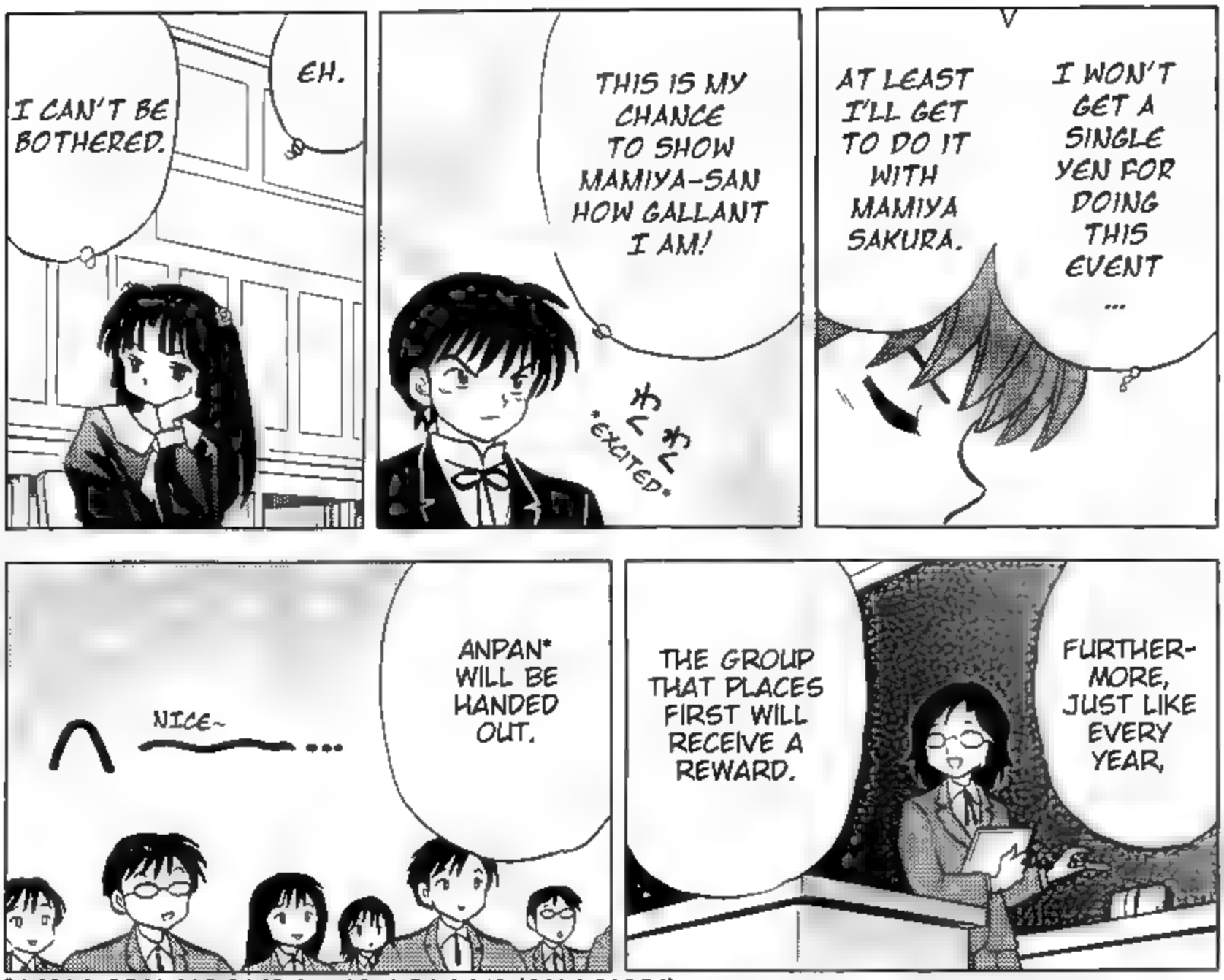
SURE.

LET'S DO OUR BEST ROKUDOU-KUN!

I'M SURPRISED TOO.

WOW, GOOD FOR YOU, SAKURA-CHAN!

AND MAMIYA SAKURA-SAN.


EH.
I CAN'T BE BOTHERED.
THIS IS MY CHANCE TO SHOW MAMIYA-SAN HOW GALLANT I AM!
わくわく *EXCITED*
I WON'T GET A SINGLE YEN FOR DOING THIS EVENT ...
AT LEAST I'LL GET TO DO IT WITH MAMIYA SAKURA.
ANPAN* WILL BE HANDED OUT.
NICE~
THE GROUP THAT PLACES FIRST WILL RECEIVE A REWARD.
FURTHER-MORE, JUST LIKE EVERY YEAR,

*ANPAN: STEAMED BUNS FILLED WITH ANKO (BEAN PASTE)

WOW, EVERYONE'S TRAINING HARD!

STRETCHING

STRETCHING

MIHO-CHAN, RIKA-CHAN.

GO FOR IT, SAKURA-CHAN!

4

EVIL 4TH LANE?

BUT STEER CLEAR OF THE EVIL 4TH LANE!

ALWAYS MESS UP THE BATON PASS AND END UP LOSING.

EVERY YEAR AT THE ATHLETIC FESTIVAL RELAY RACE, THE GROUPS RUNNING IN THE 4TH LANE

IT'S LIKE SOMETHING GOT IN THE WAY...

THAT'S WEIRD...

IT HAPPENS TO EVERYONE...

FEEL FREE TO USE THAT LANE!

OH, IT'S THE FIRST-YEARS.

SO IT IS, AND ALL THE OTHER LANES ARE PACKED FULL.

IT'S EMPTY OVER THERE.

HUH?

THE 4TH LANE...

EH...

BUT IS THERE REALLY SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT THIS LANE...?

EVERYONE'S HEARD THE RUMOR, SO THEY'RE AVOIDING IT.

"WHOOSH"
!
!

"SNATCH"

A SPIRIT!?

WHOA!

I'M GONNA MAKE IT!!

EH...?

7

HE VAN-ISHED...

"CLACK"

EVERY YEAR!?

THAT SPIRIT MUST BE APPEARING EVERY YEAR TO INTERFERE WITH THE BATON PASS, JUST LIKE THE RUMORS SAY...

"WHOOSH"
"SNATCH"
HUH!?
HERE, JUUMONJI.
WHOA!
"SWING"
HIYAA!
I'M GONNA MAKE IT...

8

"POOF"
WE'RE THE ONES WHO SHOULD BE ASKING THAT!
"COUGH"
WHY ARE YOU GETTING IN MY WAY!?

EVEN AFTER I WENT HOME FROM SCHOOL, I PRACTICED ON MY OWN.

I WAS TRAINING ENTHUSIASTICALLY.

ON THE DAY OF THE ATHLETIC FESTIVAL...

BUT THEN...

HE SPOKE!

BEING THE ANCHOR* IS A VERY SERIOUS POSITION.

I WAS A RELAY RACE MEMBER.

ゴホ

COUGH

*ANCHOR = FINAL RUNNER IN A RELAY

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO TRAIN!

SHE'S RIGHT!

JUST FORCE THAT GUY TO PASS ON, QUICK!

HEY ROKUDOU.

HUH, IS NO-ONE ELSE LISTENING!?

9

BUT THEN-!

I WAS RUNNING ON THE MORNING OF THIS ATHLETIC FESTIVAL TOO.

Spirit

Anpan

Priorities

THEY'RE RIGHT... I GUESS THIS TIME I HAVE NO CHOICE.

I GOTTA SAVE HIM!

HONK HONK

ﾊﾟｯ

ｷｬﾝ

EEP!

10

I TOOK THE BATON, AND THEN...

AND I MADE IT JUST IN TIME!

HE HAD ALREADY PASSED AWAY ...

BY THEN...

I HAD TO HURRY, BEFORE THE RACE BEGAN!

BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS RUNNING TO THE SCHOOL.

WHY DON'T I GIVE YOU A HELPING HAND?

TSU-BASA-KUN.

SUCH A SPLENDID WAY TO PASS AWAY.

"PAT"

ずい

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE RUNNING THE WRONG WAY.

YEAH.

THERE WAS NO FINISH LINE!

WHY ROKUDOU-KUN?

HUH?

YOU TWO CAN JUST START TRAINING.

HEY ROKUDOU, RENGE.

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME.

HMPH. JUUMONJI...

11

AT ANY RATE, WE'LL GET HIM TO PASS ON QUICKLY...

AFTER ALL, SPIRITS ARE ALWAYS GOING TO YOU FIRST, ROKUDOU-KUN.

THANK GOOD-NESS!

OF COURSE.

FIRST OF ALL, OF COURSE I'LL BE HELPING THIS SPLENDID SPIRIT.

NO, IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE ONLY THINKING ABOUT THE ANPAN PRIZE, AREN'T YOU?

DID HE REALLY CALL ME SPLENDID?

"TOUCHED" じ～ん

I'M SO HAPPY ...

WE'VE GOTTA GET THOSE ANPAN NO MATTER WHAT!!

AND THEN WE CAN FULLY CONCENTRATE ON OUR RELAY TRAINING...

HE SAID THE LAST PART OUT LOUD.

Saved itself

Stopped

キキキ "SCREECH"

ガシャーン "CRASH"

ゴンッ "SMACK"

Fell down

THIS IS PRETTY MUCH HOW I REMEMBER IT...

ぴく "PERKS UP"

A RELAY!!

わいわいわい ALRIGHT!

ANY GROUPS WANTING TO PARTICIPATE, FORM UP OVER HERE!

LET'S PRACTICE THE WHOLE RELAY RACE!

12

IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T YOU BE OUR ANCHOR?

I CAN'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE!

IF I RACED AND COME OUT ON TOP...

OF COURSE!

YOU REALLY WANNA RACE, HUH.

IF WE CAN COME OUT ON TOP OF THIS RELAY,

THIS IS GOOD!

"BANG"

GO--!

LEAVE IT TO ME!

ROKUDOU-KUN!

HE CAN PASS ON WITHOUT ANY REGRETS!

Incidentally, regular students can't see spirits.

えっ WHOA!

"WHOOSH"

YEAH!

"SNATCH"

しゅっ

13

THAT'S THE WRONG WAY!

THAT GROUP'S IN THE EVIL 4TH LANE!

"MURMURING" ざわざわ

THEY FAILED THE BATON PASS!

BECAUSE OF THAT HABIT OF HIS TO RUN THE WRONG WAY HE'S BEEN UNABLE TO PASS ON FOR ALL THESE YEARS...

No one can see the scythe-wielding Renge either.

SPINNING

THE BATON'S MOVING ON ITS OWN...

WHOA!

"SLASH"

TURN AROUND!

14

SO FAST!

ZOOM

GRAB

GOT IT!

IS THE NEXT BATON PASS!

THE REAL PROB-LEM

HE'S PASSING THEM ALL ONE AFTER ANOTHER!

THE ACTION IN THE 4TH LANE IS AMAZING!

WHAT'LL WE DO!?

わわ

ANXIOUS

HE DESPERATELY WANTS TO SNATCH THE BATON AND RUN THE WRONG WAY AGAIN!

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA, GOT IT!

げぼ

ZOOM

COUGHING

ARGH, DAMN YOU!

COUGH

SACRED ASHES!

POOF

15

JUST DON'T RUN THE WRONG WAY!

COME ON, LET'S DO THIS!!

TH-THAT'S RIGHT!

AS THE ANCHOR, IT'LL BE YOUR TURN NEXT.

PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I KNEW HE'D MESS IT UP.

ぴゃ "ZOOM"

I'M GONNA TAKE TOP PLACE~!

OK! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS RUN ONE LAP IN THAT DIRECTION!

わくわく "EXCITED"

GOT IT! JUST LEAVE IT UP TO ME!!

"RUNNING" だだだだ

HERE I COME!

IF HE DOESN'T RUN THE SAME WAY AS EVERYONE ELSE, HE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO WIN OR LOSE...

WHAT'S THAT, ROKUDOU-KUN...?

"PWIP"

I DIDN'T WANT TO HAVE TO USE THIS, BUT...

16

"POOF"

"TOSS"

PAPER DOGS!

Paper dogs are a Shinigami tool that create the illusion of dogs, which can be used to chase humans in a desired direction.

BARKING

ばばば

うううう

WAAAAH!!

TURUS

BARKING

HUFF!

ROAR

17

HURRY AND PASS ON~!

GO FOR IT~!

YES! HE CAN REACH THE GOAL LIKE THIS!

EVERYONE IS RUNNING AFTER ME...

I MUST BE IN THE TOP POSITION NOW...!

WITH THIS, MY ONE REMAINING WISH IS...

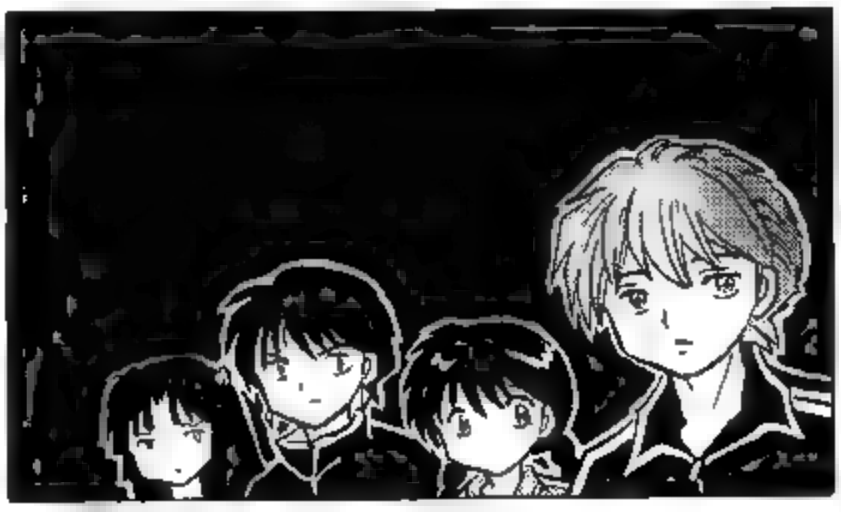
THANKS EVERYONE...

"RUNNING"

I WAS ONLY TRYING FOR THE POSITION.

JUST WHY WERE YOU MADE ANCHOR!?

YOU... YOU'RE REALLY SLOW, AREN'T YOU?



And so he passed on.

"PHEW"

IT'S QUITE SATIS-FYING.

EVEN SO... I FINALLY GOT TO RACE...

"BANG" "BANG" "BANG"

And on the day of the athletic festival...

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MESSED UP!

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!

"SOBBING"

OH NO, WE JUST HAD A TEAMWORK PROBLEM.

YEAH, IT'S BECAUSE YOU RAN ON THE EVIL 4TH LANE!

HOW UNLUCKY! YOU MESSED UP THE BATON PASS!

They didn't win the anpan.

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CHAPTER 165

A WISH TO THE MOON

"BANGING"

"BANGING"

"BANGING"

"SHOVE"

WOULD YOU SHUT UP!

2

OH, IF IT ISN'T RINNE-SAMA!

WHY'D YOU SUDDENLY DO THAT, YOU STUPID SCUM!?

JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING RIGHT ABOVE OUR ROOM!?

THERE'S A CRESCENT MOON TONIGHT.

AN ALTAR?

IT'S AN ALTAR, YOU STUPID SCUM.

JUST WHAT IS THIS?

WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT OF SCYTHE FORGING LIVES ON THE MOON.

WHAT AN ANNOYING COINCIDENCE.

THIS YEAR IT JUST HAPPENS TO BE HAPPENING ABOVE THIS RUN DOWN, CRUMMY LITTLE HOUSE, YOU STUPID SCUM.

WE WELCOME THAT GUARDIAN SPIRIT EVERY YEAR ON THE NIGHT OF THE AUTUMN CRESCENT MOON.

"THUD"

OH?

ACTUALLY, WE HAVE A LITTLE JOB OFFER THAT SHOULD CHEER YOU UP!

"SMACK"

I'M DIGGING IN!

OOOH! THEY LOOK DELICIOUS~!

TSUKIMI DANGO* ...!?

*TSUKIMI DANGO = RICE DUMPLINGS (DANGO) USED FOR THE AUTUMN MOON WATCHING FESTIVAL (TSUKIMI)

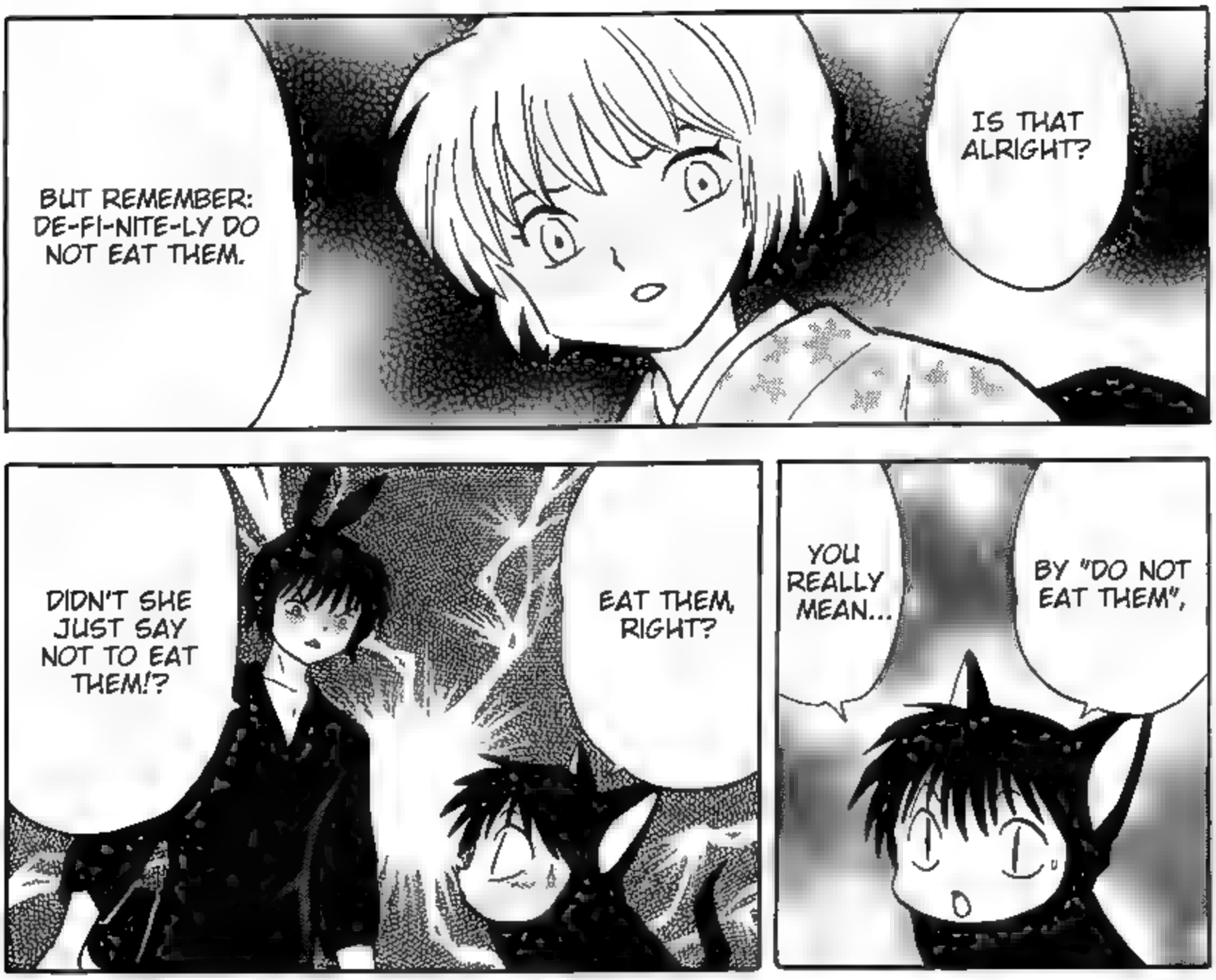
You'll see the guardian spirit in the second half!

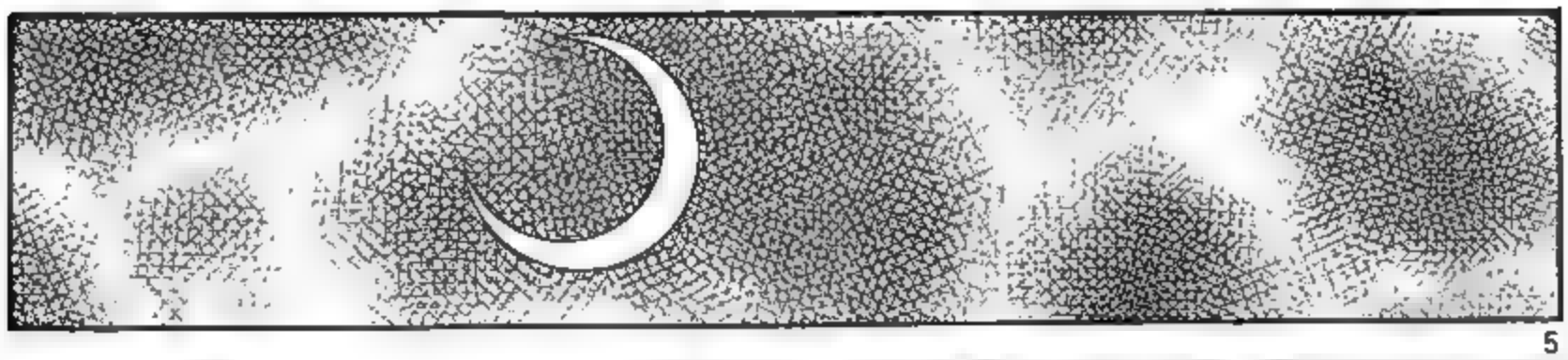
THESE ARE A VERY IMPORTANT OFFERING TO INVITE THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT FROM THE MOON.

4

SO WATCH THE DANGO WHILE WE'RE GONE, STUPID SCUM.

WE'RE GOING TO FIND SOME SUSUKI GRASS FOR THE ALTAR DISPLAY RIGHT NOW.


BUT REMEMBER: DE-FI-NITE-LY DO NOT EAT THEM.
IS THAT ALRIGHT?
DIDN'T SHE JUST SAY NOT TO EAT THEM!?
EAT THEM, RIGHT?
YOU REALLY MEAN...
BY "DO NOT EAT THEM",



5

WE JUST HAVE TO WATCH IT A LITTLE LONGER...
JUST ENDURE IT, ROKUMON.
I'M PRETTY HUNGRY.
SILENCE
CRICKETS

AND WE'LL HAVE YOU REINBURSE US FOR OUR LOSS.

THEN THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT WON'T APPEAR AND THE CEREMONY WILL BE RUINED.

HOWEVER, SHOULD EVEN ONE DANGO GO MISSING, BE IT FROM STICKY FINGERS OR OTHERWISE,

AS PAYMENT FOR YOUR LITTLE JOB, YOU CAN HAVE ¥300.

HMM.

THIS IS A PRETTY SWEET JOB.

I'LL GET ¥300 JUST TO SIT AROUND...

あんぐ
MMM~

ひょい
YOINK

6

GET LOST.

ぶんっ
SLAM

RINNE-SAMA, WATCH OUT...!

!

7

"MURMURING"

HUH...?

DANGO~

"RUSHING"

"SLASH"

PURIFI-
CATION!

ARE ATTRACTED TO THE DANGO!?

THESE WANDERING GHOSTS...

8

SINCE THEY'RE ABLE TO CALL THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT FROM THE DISTANT MOON...

H-HANG ON!

THESE DANGO...

Weak attractive force

Wandering spirit

Strong attractive force

IF THEY CAN REACH THE MOON, THEN IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT ANY NEARBY SPIRITS WOULD GATHER AROUND THEM TOO!

I SEE!

!

MURMURING

THEY'RE SURROUNDING US AGAIN!

MURMURING

DAMN, THERE'S NO END TO THEM!

DANGO~!

SLASH

PSSHH

PURIFICATION!

RUSHING

DANGO~!

"RUSHING"

DANGO~!

THEN I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE 'EM!

"NGAH!

IF THEY'RE GOING TO BE EATEN BY THESE WANDERING GHOSTS ANYWAY,

"CRASH"

WE CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL AROUND YOU.

DIDN'T WE SAY NOT TO EAT THEM, YOU STUPID SCUM!?

10

WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN?

"GRIPPING"

WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT?

"JAB"

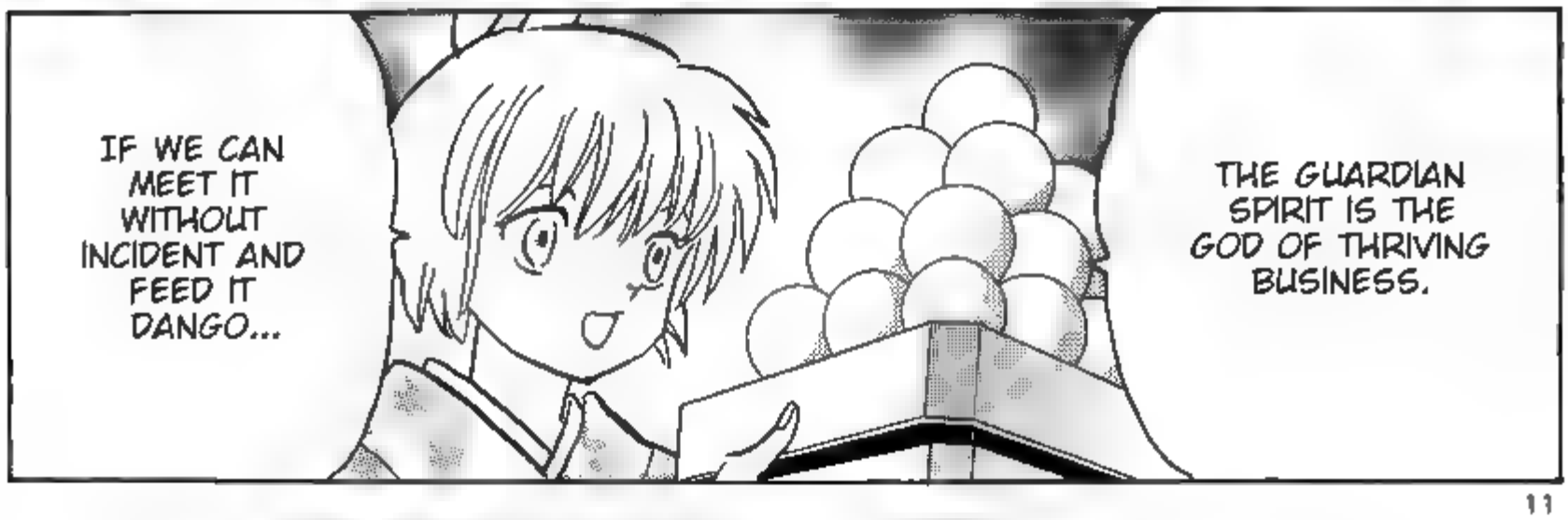
OI.

SO YOU NOTICED.
TSK.
DAMN.
¥300 CLEARLY ISN'T ENOUGH FOR THIS JOB.

WE DON'T HAVE IT, YOU STUPID SCUM.
WE'RE GOING HOME.
HAND OVER THE ¥300, NOW.

WELL IT WAS CHEAPER THAN BUYING A SPECIAL WANDERING GHOST BARRIER.
YOU WERE JUST USING US INSTEAD OF A BARRIER, WEREN'T YOU?
3
PFF

RINNE-SAMA, I CAN EXPLAIN!
CRUSHING


IF WE CAN MEET IT WITHOUT INCIDENT AND FEED IT DANGO...
THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT IS THE GOD OF THRIVING BUSINESS.

AND THEN THE CEREMONY WILL END WITHOUT INCIDENT.
REALLY?
THEN IT WILL TEACH US AN INCANTATION TO MAKE A BUSINESS THRIVE.

THEN OUR BUSINESS WILL SURELY THRIVE.

IF THAT INCANTATION IS WRITTEN ON AN OFUDA* AND HUNG IN THE SHOP,

*OFUDA = HOUSEHOLD SHINTO AMULET FOR LUCK/PROTECTION

DAMN!

RATHER THAN GETTING PAID IN SUCH A ROUNDABOUT MANNER, WHY NOT GET A REGULAR PART-TIME JOB AND EARN MORE?

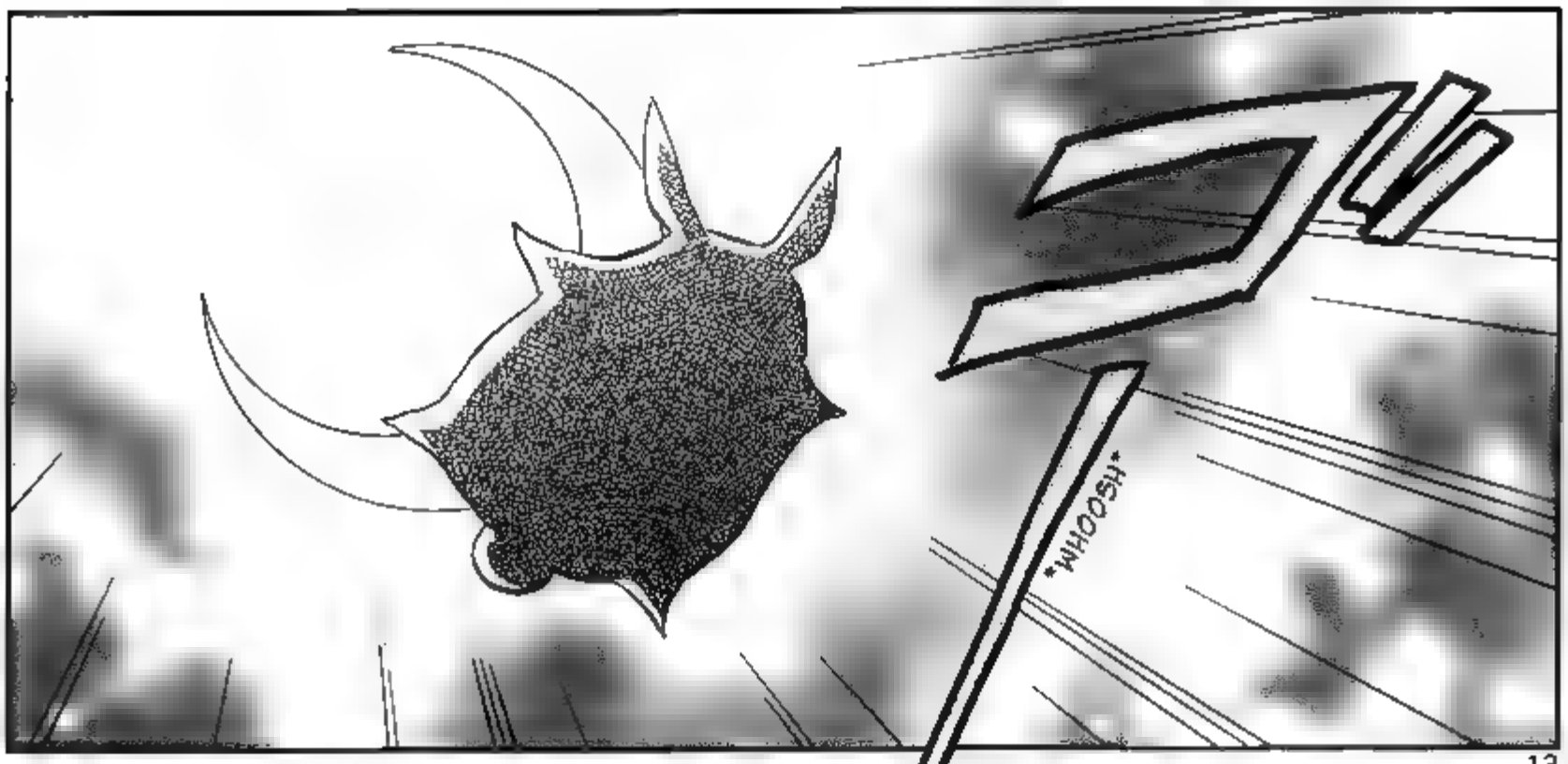
AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO EARN YOUR ¥300 WAGES IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!

THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT IS DESCENDING!

THAT'S A...

"WHOOSH"

!



13

"WHOOOOSH"

THE DANGO!

AH!

"FSSH"

PURIFI-CATION!

"SWOOP"

"DASH"

DANGO~!

14

DIG IN!

OH GREAT GUARDIAN SPIRIT,

"THRUST"

THANKS ROKUMON-CHAN!

RIGHT-SAN, PASS!

"TOSS"

"WHOOSH"

GIVE US DANGO~!

"BOUNDING"

NO THANKS.

I'M ON A DIET.

NOPE

I'VE GOT A TOOTH-ACHE.

GO ON, JUST ONE.

"NUDGING."

HUH!?

15

THEN WE'LL GET THE INCANTA-TION AS THANKS...

IF WE CAN PERSUADE THE GUARDIAN SPIRIT TO EAT THEM,

THIS HAPPENS EVERY YEAR.

OI, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

"MURMURING"

INDEED HE DID!

DID HE SAY THAT HE DOESN'T WANT THEM?

NGAH

THEN I WILL...!

AND IF THAT FAT AS A FULL MOON GUARDIAN SPIRIT DOESN'T WANT TO EAT ANY,

"SLAPPING"

JUST EAT 'EM ALL QUICKLY, YOU STUPID SCUM!

"GRAB"

"PUNT"

16

THEY'RE USING THE BROKEN ALTAR...

"CATCH"

GOT IT!

"TOSS"

LEFT!

ぼりぼりぼり
"CRUNCHING"

TAKE THAT!
"STUFFING"
ぐいぐいぐい

"OPENING"
ぐぐぐ

"SPARKLING"
キラキラキラ

"FLARE"
ピカーン

NOW GUARDIAN SPIRIT, ABOUT THE INCANTATION...
"LIFTS"

THE CEREMONY WAS A SUCCESS!

SUCH A DIVINE LIGHT...

OH...

CRUNCH
ぼり
ぼり
CRUNCH
getting a part time job instead?
CRUNCH
ぼり
CRUNCH
wouldn't you be better... off
CRUNCH
ぼり
CRUNCH
ぼり
CRUNCH
Rather than... doing these ceremonies...
ぼり
CRUNCH
ぼり
CRUNCH

NO SURPRISE THERE.
I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD HE SAID.

HMM.
SO LEFT, WHAT DID HE SAY WAS THE INCANTATION?

BLOOP
LATER.

Rather than doing these ceremonies, wouldn't you be better off getting a part-time job instead?
The guardian spirit's actual incantation
WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT YEAR'S CEREMONY, YOU STUPID SCUM.
REACH
GIMME MY ¥300.

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CHAPTER 166

THE MYSTERIOUS LION-DOGS

A PHANTOM KOMAINU?

BY KOMAINU, DO YOU MEAN THOSE BIG STONE LION-DOGS THAT GUARD SHINTO SHRINES?

RIGHT. ACCORDING TO THE PERSON WHO SAW IT,

2

THE PHANTOM APPEARED ABOVE AN ACTUAL KOMAINU STATUE.

IT THEN SLAMMED ITSELF INTO THE STATUE A FEW TIMES,

BEFORE RUNNING AWAY.

OH.

BUT...

I'VE NO IDEA.

BUT WHY?

Local Shrine

I DOUBT WE'LL BE SO LUCKY...

THE ONLY SHRINE LEFT IS THIS ONE, SO THAT'S WHY I EXPECT IT'LL APPEAR HERE TODAY...

Offerings

IT'S ALREADY HAPPENED AT SEVERAL LOCAL SHINTO SHRINES.

"CRASH"

"WHOOSH"

"SHOOM"

ボウ...

AH...

"SHOOM"

!

RUMOR HAS IT THAT IT ONLY SLAMS INTO KOMAINU STATUES, BUT DOESN'T ATTACK PEOPLE...

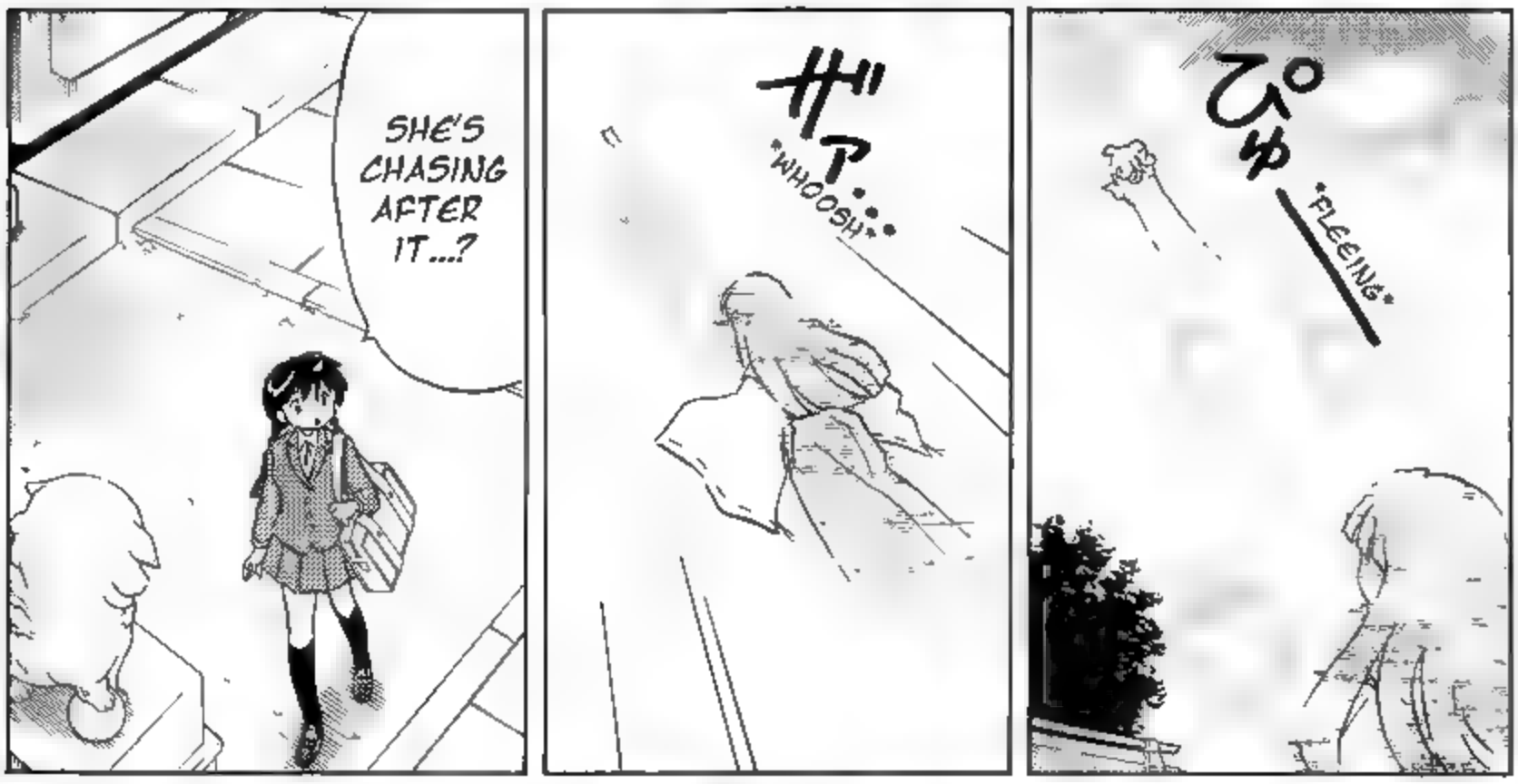
MIHO-CHAN, RIKA-CHAN, YOU'RE NOT RUNNING AWAY TODAY?

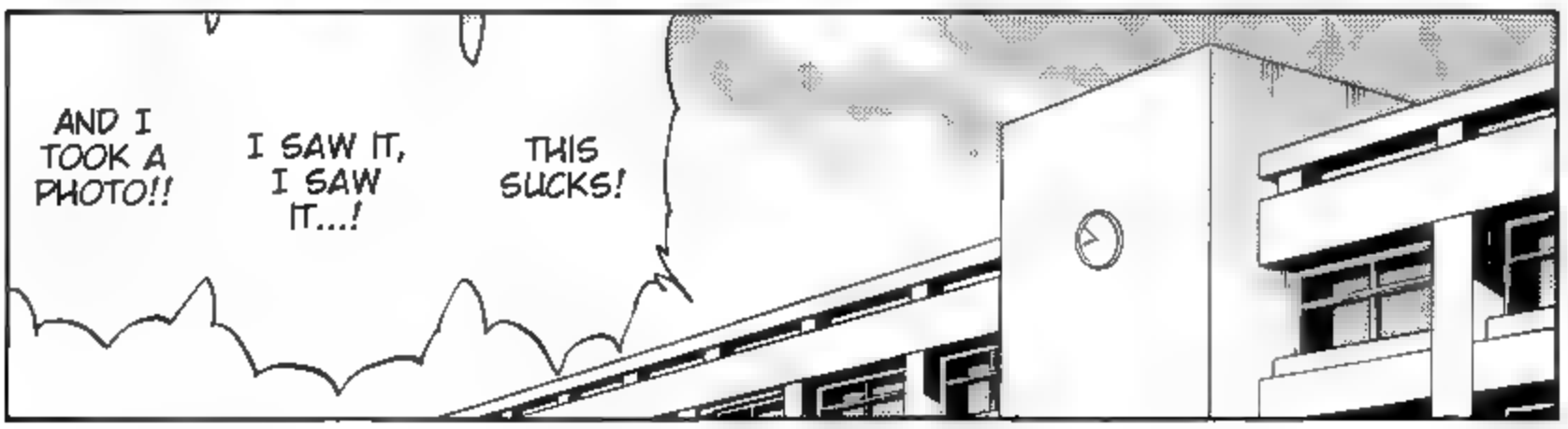
EH!?

I WANNA GET A PHOTO!

"WHOOOOSH"

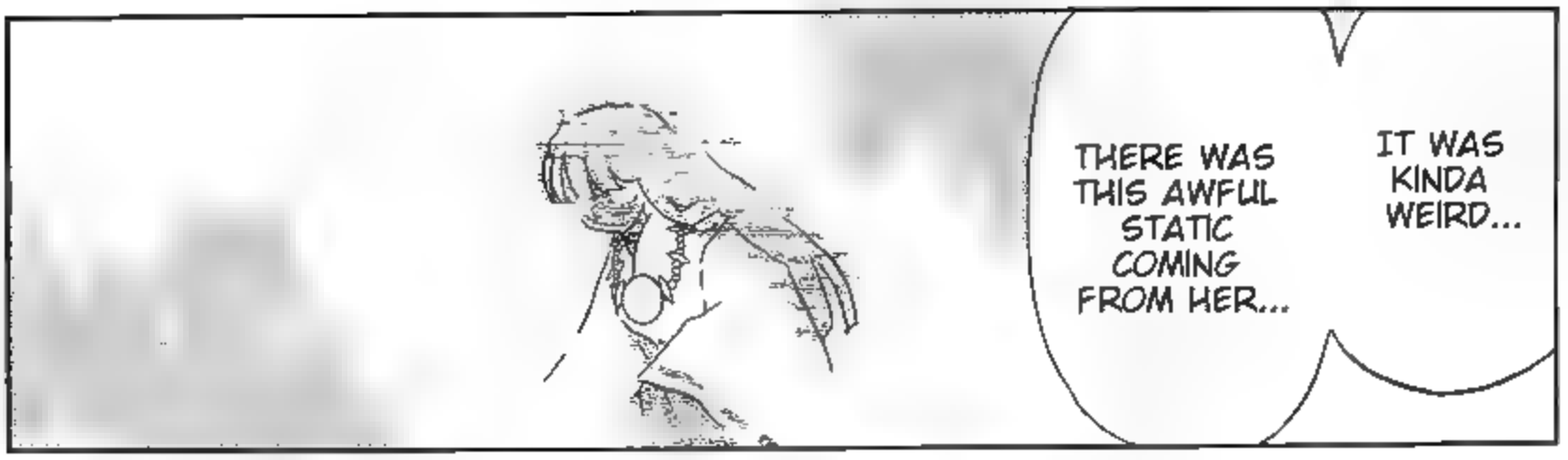
A MIKO....!?
ぴゃ
"FLEEING"...
KYAAAAA, THAT'S SCARY!


SHE'S CHASING AFTER IT....?
ヒュ
"WHOOSH"...
ぴゃ
"FLEEING"

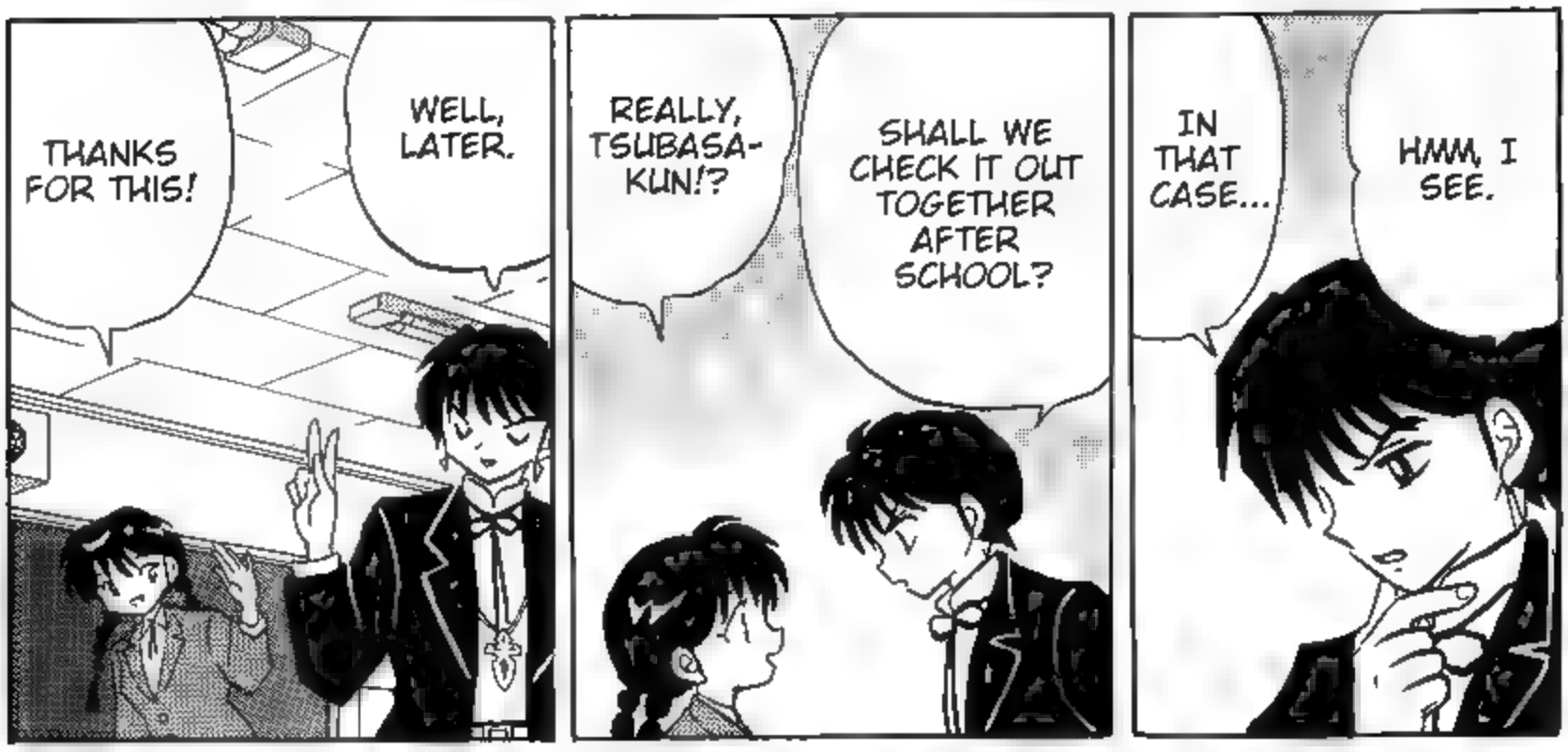

AND I TOOK A PHOTO!!
I SAW IT, I SAW IT...!
THIS SUCKS!

5

YEAH TSUBASA-KUN.
BUT...
SO DID YOU SEE IT, MAMIYA-SAN?
THIS SUCKS~!!
THIS PHOTO'S TOO BLURRY TO MAKE OUT.


IT WAS KINDA WEIRD...
THERE WAS THIS AWFUL STATIC COMING FROM HER...

I THOUGHT MAYBE ROKUDOU-KUN WOULD KNOW ALL ABOUT THIS SPIRIT...
BUT HE'S NOT HERE.


IN THAT CASE...
HMM, I SEE.
REALLY, TSUBASA-KUN!?
SHALL WE CHECK IT OUT TOGETHER AFTER SCHOOL?
THANKS FOR THIS!
WELL, LATER.

6

Date Plan
"TAP" か
"TAP" か
"TAP" が

"SITS" どすっ

WE'LL HAVE TIME TO CATCH A MOVIE, GET A BITE TO EAT AND CHAT...

IF I TELL HER MY OPINION ON THIS SPIRIT QUICKLY,

WE CAN REALLY GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER!

AH,

THERE IT IS RINNE-SAMA!

"ZOOM"

7

THAT MYSTERIOUS KOMAINU THAT'S BEEN HANGING AROUND HERE RECENTLY!

ガシャん
APP!

"WHOOSH"

"ESCAPES"

YEAH...

BUT IT ONLY RECENTLY BECAME A TSUKUMOGAMI.

IT'S A TSUKUMO-GAMI, ISN'T IT?

ひょん ひょん

SPINNING

Tsukumogami are tools or items that gain a soul after a long period of time.

"ZOOM"

GOTCHA!

8

"SNAG"

"YANK"

PULLING

ぐいっ

ARR!

おうおう

ARR!

ぎーう

ARR!

IT'S PANICKING!

DAMN!

HUH?

WHY DON'T WE GO FOR SOME TEA?

I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED IT WOULDN'T GO TO THE SAME SHRINE AS YESTERDAY.

HUH!?

ZOOM

TSUBASA-KUN, LOOK OUT...!

OM NOM NOM

かぷかぷ

SORRY, TOO LATE.

YEAH. WELL, FOR THE TIME BEING...

ROKU-DOU-KUN.

UH-HUH.

*OM NOM NOM.

MY BAD. SORRY.

IT'S PROBABLY A KOMAINU TSUKUMOGAMI THAT'S A LONG WAY FROM THE SHRINE WITH IT'S KOMAINU STATUE.

*RUNNING.

*RUNNING.

A LOST TSUKUMO-TGAMI!?

10

HAVING LEFT ITS BODY, IT WANTS TO RUN FREE.

AFTER BECOMING A TSUKUMOGAMI, THEY WANT TO PLAY.

IT HAPPENS SOME-TIMES.

SO WHY IS IT HERE?

KOMAINU AND OINARI-SAN* NORMALLY STAY WITHIN THEIR OWN TERRITORIES.

ARF! ARF! ARF!

YIPE!

WHEN IT STEPS INTO ANOTHER KOMAINU'S TERRITORY, IT GETS CHASED AWAY.

*OINARI-SAN = STONE FOX GUARDIANS THAT PROTECT INARI SHRINES

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A PET CAT THAT WON'T GO HOME.

AND SO IT GETS STEADILY FURTHER AND FURTHER FROM IT'S ORIGINAL SHRINE...?

SO IT'LL MOVE FROM ONE KOMAINU'S TERRITORY TO ANOTHER'S, OVER AND OVER AND OVER...

SLAM

OCCU-PIED!

IT TRIES TO GO INTO A STONE KOMAINU.

I SEE... THAT'S WHY WHEN IT WANTS TO GO HOME,

11

BUT SINCE WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT CAME FROM, WHAT CAN WE DO?

HMM... IT'S GOOD THAT WE CAUGHT IT, BUT...

PANTING

すたすたすた
WALKING AWAY

WE CAN LEAVE THE REST UP TO ROKUDOU, AND GO FOR SOME TEA...

RIGHT! THERE IS SOMETHING WE CAN DO!

CLAP

ぽん

DUSTLE

EH...!?

12

IT'S THE SPIRIT FROM YESTER DAY...

LOOK, THERE'S A GIRL OVER THERE, TSUBASA-KUN!

"SLAM"

"POOF"

SACRED ASHES!

"LIFT"

13

"LAUGHING"

"RUSTLING"

WHA...!?

RUSTLING

SAKAKI-SAN?

IS THAT YOU...

EH...

!

YES...

BUT SHE'S JUST AN PASSING ACQUAINTANCE...

YOU KNOW HER!?

TSU-BASA-KUN...

14

SHUFFLING

RUSTLING

HMM?

"RUSTLING"

"DISAPPEARS"

"FLING"

"PLUNK"

SHE'S GONE...

15

WHAT!?

THERE'S A NOTE ATTACHED TO IT?

"RUSTLE"

"POP"

IDIOT

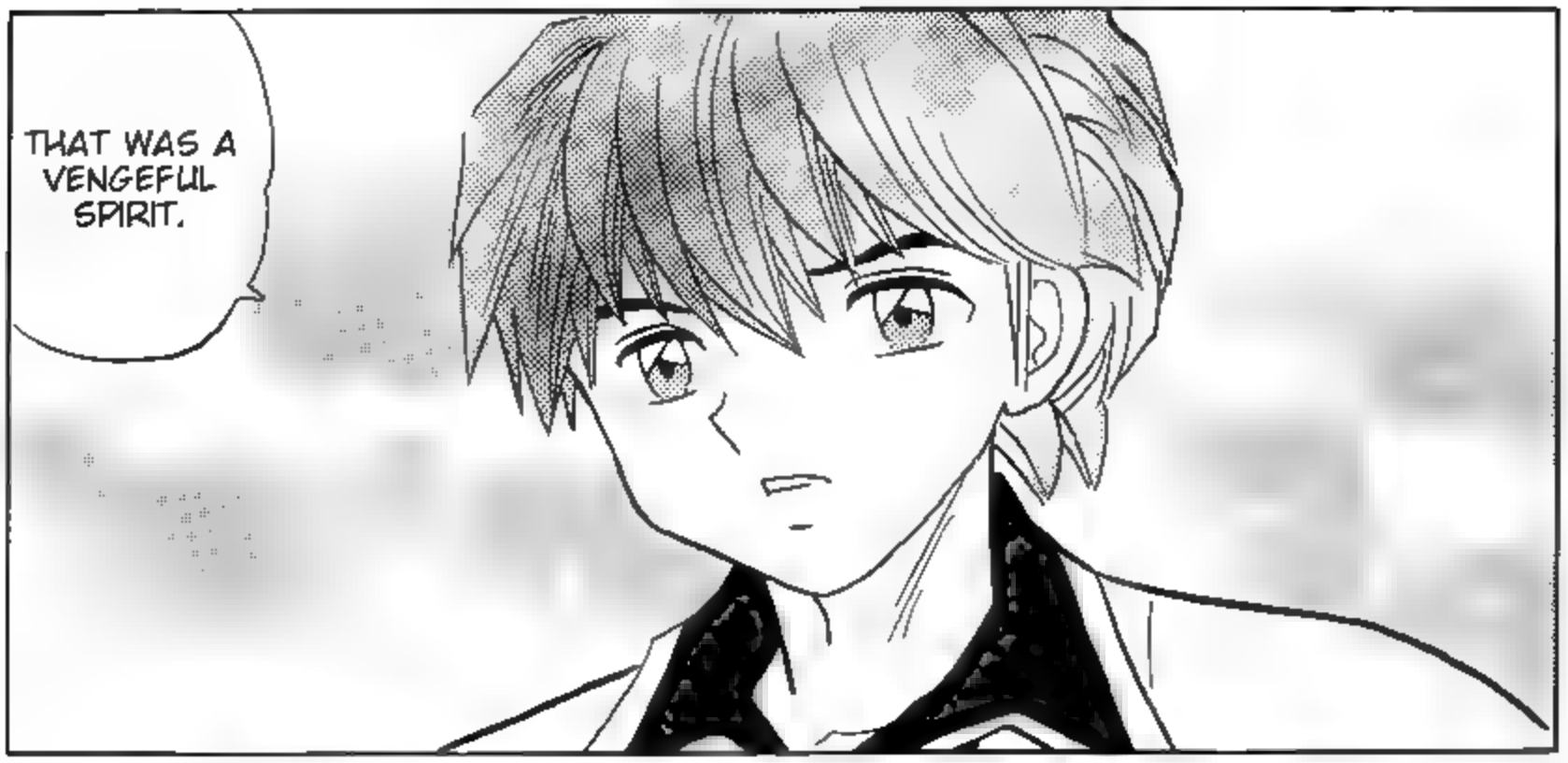
BUT!?

SHE WAS MY CLASSMATE IN JUNIOR HIGH.
BUT...
SAKAKI AYAME ...

JUST WHO IS THAT SPIRIT?
YOU SAID HER NAME IS SAKAKI-SAN...?

16

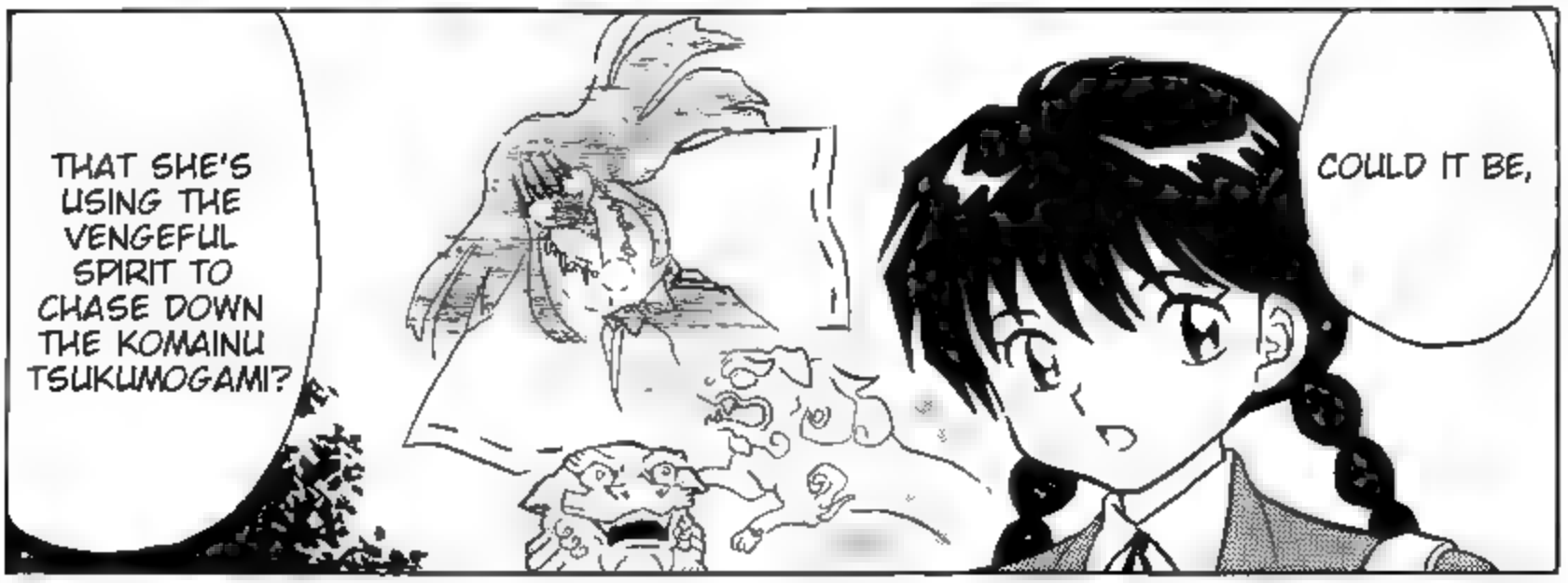
THERE WAS NEVER ANY DOUBT.
UMM, WHAT...
PLEASE BELIEVE ME, MAMIYA-SAN!
WE WERE NOTHING MORE THAN ORDINARY CLASSMATES!
THAT'S ALL SHE WAS!
THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE, I SAY!


THAT WAS A VENGEFUL SPIRIT.

A VENGEFUL SPIRIT?

YES,
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW SHE COULD PROJECT A VENGEFUL SPIRIT.
DOES SHE HAVE A JOB LIKE YOURS, JUUMONJI?
SHE LOOKED LIKE A MIKO.

17


THAT SHE'S USING THE VENGEFUL SPIRIT TO CHASE DOWN THE KOMAINU TSUKUMOGAMI?
COULD IT BE,

THERE'S NO USE.

HURRY UP AND CALL HER.

ALRIGHT, JUUMONJI.

SO I DON'T EVEN HAVE HER PHONE NUMBER.

I DON'T KNOW HER VERY WELL,

カサ *RUSTLE*

I HATE YOU

IDIOT

DUMBASS

HISSING

PLUNK

PLUNK

PLUNK

SHE COULD HAVE AT LEAST TAKEN THE KOMAINU WITH HER.

OF COURSE SHE IS.

AND YOU'RE SAYING SHE'S JUST AN ORDINARY CLASSMATE?

OM NOM

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CHAPTER 167

ENTER THE MIKO!

WE NEVER REALLY SPOKE TO EACH OTHER.

AYAME SAKAKI WAS A CLASSMATE AT A SCHOOL I TRANSFERRED TO DURING JUNIOR HIGH.

GEHEHEHE!

HEY!

YOU'D BETTER BEHAVE YOURSELF AND PASS ON...!

PULLING

HUH!? AN EVIL SPIRIT?

AND THEN ONE DAY, WHILE I WAS ON MY WAY HOME AFTER SCHOOL...

P

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2

EEEEEK!

POOF

POOF

FLING

SACRED ASHES!

AH, SO YOU'RE AN EXORCIST TOO?

YOU'RE SAKAKI-SAN, RIGHT!?

げほげほ *COUGHING*

FIZZLE

BUT SHE DIDN'T SAY A WORD.

げほげほ *COUGHING*

I MEANT WELL IN HELPING HER,

FLING

SACRED ASHES!

ぶひひーん *NEIGHING*

HEY!

HUH!?

AN EVIL SPIRIT!

AND THEN AGAIN, ON ANOTHER DAY...

THAT HAPPENED QUITE A FEW TIMES.

げほげほ *COUGHING*

BUT SHE JUST WOULDN'T TALK TO ME.

HUH,

SO YOU DID MEET HER SEVERAL TIMES.

I DARESAY SHE PROBABLY KNOWS

WHERE THIS KOMAINU TSUKUMOGAMI CAME FROM.

TO *PANTING*

THAT'S TOO BAD.

IN THE END, I TRANSFERED TO ANOTHER SCHOOL BEFORE SHE OPENED UP AND TALKED TO ME.

IT'LL BE WAY TOO MUCH OF A PAIN FOR US!

WELL, HE CAN'T STAY HERE FOREVER.

BE-SIDES,

NOTHING I COULD DO ABOUT IT.

SHE BASICALLY JUST IGNORED ME.

WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE JUST GOTTEN TO KNOW HER BETTER?

MAMIYA-SAN IS THE ONLY GIRL I WANT TO KNOW BETTER!

POINT

5

AH!

PLUNK

PLUNK

SLITHERING

TWIT

IDIOT

"TOSS"

OVER THERE!

6

"POOF"

"WHOOSH"

キラ キラ "SPARKLING" キラ キラ

I HIT HER WITH WISH POWDER!

DON'T WORRY!

"DASH"

SHE'S GETTING AWAY!

"ZOOM"

Wish powder is a tracking tool that, when sprinkled onto a vengeful spirit, can be used to follow it to its origin.

きら きら きら "SPARKLING"

"SPARKLING" きら きら

"ZOOM"

7

きら きら きら "SPARKLING"

!

"WHOOSH"

"WHOOSH"

"DASH"

8

!

"ZOOM"

IS THAT GIRL SAKAKI AYAME-SAN!?

THE VENGEFUL SPIRIT IS HEADING RIGHT FOR HER!

WHAT!?

SHE DODGED IT!?

"WHOOSH"

"TURNS"

"SPLASH"

9

SAKAKI-SAN!

"LUNGE"

"DODGE"

"DIVING IN"
トプン

"SPARKLING"
キラキラ

YOU'RE SAKAKI-SAN, RIGHT?

.....

"SPARKLING"
キラキラ

"PLUNK"
ぷちゅす

AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?

UMM...

10

I'M NOT SURPRISED THAT YOU'D FORGET ME.

I'M TSUBASA JUUMONJI, WE WERE CLASSMATES IN JUNIOR HIGH.

EH!?

OH THAT!

WELL, WE NEVER DID ACTUALLY TALK TO ONE ANOTHER.

EVEN AFTER HELPING HER EXTERMINATE ALL THOSE EVIL SPIRITS.

YOU DIDN'T LEAVE MUCH OF AN IMPRESSION, HUH?

GLARE

YEAH, YOU WERE THERE.

AH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I THINK I DO REMEMBER YOU.

COUGHING

HOW COULD I TALK WHEN I WAS CHOKING ON CLOUDS OF SACRED ASH!?

11

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN HUNTING DOWN A KOMAINU TSUKUMOGAMI?

.....

WELL, BE THAT AS IT MAY,

SHE SEEMS TO REMEMBER HIM QUITE CLEARLY.

.....

PANTING
はぁ

BUT THE THING IS,

YES...

IT'S ACTUALLY THE KOMAINU FROM MY SHINTO SHRINE.

OH.

THAT'S PRETTY AMAZING, SAKAKI-SAN!

SO YOU WERE USING YOUR VENGEFUL SPIRIT TO FIND IT?

12

OH...

IS THAT RIGHT?

YOU'VE EARNED MY RESPECT!

YOU'RE ABLE TO CONTROL A VENGEFUL SPIRIT... I CAN'T DO THAT!

AND BRING IT HOME RIGHT AWAY!

WELL THEN, PLEASE TAKE THE KOMAINU,

しぽっ "SHOOP"

どんっ "CRASH"

"SUDDENLY"

ぬっ "WHAM"

13

YES?

きらきら "SPARKLING"

UMM...

WANT ME TO WAKE JUUMONJI UP FIRST?

NO, I'M GOOD.

WILL YOU BE GOING HOME ALL ALONE LIKE THIS?

SO...

ひゃ!

WIMP

I SHOULD JUST QUICKLY TAKE IT HOME.

SO YEAH,

WE ONLY MET BY CHANCE JUST NOW, AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE CLOSE OR ANYTHING.

14

HUH?

ぴょ

YOINK

すっ

SUDDENLY

ぽかーん

ぴゅ

"WHOOSH"

!!

は？

WHA?

HO-
HOLD
ON!

YOU
GET
BACK
HERE
RIGHT
NOW!

WHAT'S
GOING ON
HERE!?

HER
VENGEFUL
SPIRIT...

DAMN...!

"DASH"

THE
VENGEFUL
SPIRIT IS
RUNNING
AWAY!?

EH!?

IF THAT'S THE CASE,

"ZOOM"

DON'T TELL ME... SHE CAN'T CONTROL IT VERY WELL!?

THEN IT'LL BE DANGEROUS TO LEAVE IT ALONE!

I MEAN SHE RAN OFF WITH THE KOMAINU LIKE SHE'S TRYING TO KEEP YOU FROM GOING HOME JUST YET?

DOES SHE NOT WANT TO GO HOME?

16

"SHOCK"

COULD IT BE THAT IT'S YOU WHO DOESN'T REALLY WANT TO GO HOME YET...?

MAYBE I'M READING TOO FAR INTO THINGS, BUT...

ACTUALLY, AYAME-SAN,

HE'S BACK ON HIS FEET.
TSUBASA-KUN.
SAKAKI-SAN.
OH,

WAS THERE SOMETHING ELSE YOU NEEDED?
YOU DIDN'T GO HOME YET?

G-GO HOME THEN, I GUESS.
I'LL...

17

IT LOOKS LIKE MY SERVICES AREN'T NEEDED HERE ANYMORE!
RUNNING AWAY
ボクハイラナイ
AH...

SHE'S GOT A THING FOR TSUBASA-KUN...
IT'S UNMISTAK-ABLE...

WELL, HASN'T SHE COME BACK IN A RUSH?
"TOSS"
"SMASH"

18

HER VENGEFUL SPIRIT IS GOING ON A RAMPAGE!
THIS IS BAD!
"WHACK"
"SLAM"
"CRASH"
...AND HERE I THOUGHT SHE LIKED HIM...
WAS I JUST IMAGINING IT?

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CHAPTER 168

VENGEFUL SPIRIT'S REQUEST

SIGH...

...AND I'M AN EXORCIST.

JUUMONJI-KUN TRANSFERRED INTO MY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

I SHOULD GET TO KNOW HIM.

"BA-DUM" "BA-DUM" "BA-DUM"

I HAD NEVER MET ANYONE ELSE IN THE SAME LINE OF WORK.

I WAS WAITING FOR THE DAY WHEN I WOULD GET A CHANCE TO SPEAK WITH HIM...

I WAS IN A BIT OF A BIND, WHEN...

GEHEHEHE!

[PULLING]

HEY! YOU'D BETTER BEHAVE YOURSELF AND PASS ON!

"FIZZLING"

"POOF"

ビクッ EEEEEK!

"POOF"

SACRED ASHES!

"SPARKLY"

"BRILLIANT"

TSUBASA-KUN CAME TO MY RESCUE.

Ayame-vision

3

AND THIS HAPPENED OVER AND OVER.

"COUGHING" こほこほ

I WASN'T EVEN ABLE TO THANK HIM BEFORE HE LEFT.

EEEH!?

BECAUSE OF MY PARENT'S JOB, I'M AFRAID I HAVE TO TRANSFER AGAIN.

IN FACT, I HAVEN'T EVEN SAID A WORD TO HIM YET!!

B-BUT THAT'S... I HAVEN'T EVEN THANKED HIM YET!

ABOUT THIS VENGEFUL SPIRIT YOU'VE BEEN PROJECTING...

SAKAKI AYAME-SAN,

4

AH!

AREN'T YOU ONE OF JUUMONJI-KUN'S CLASSMATES!?

DID IT START APPEARING AFTER JUUMONJI TRANSFERRED AWAY FROM YOUR SCHOOL?

IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE TRAINING I DID FOR MY JOB.

IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY CONNECTION WITH JUUMONJI-KUN.

ALTHOUGH IT'S TRUE THAT IT FIRST APPEARED AFTER HE TRANSFERRED,

NO CONNECTION...?

JUST WHEN DID THE VENGEFUL SPIRIT FIRST APPEAR?

THIS IS IMPORTANT.

SHE'S LEFT BEHIND NOT JUST THE KOMAINU, BUT ALSO THIS ANNOYING SPIRIT.

THIS IS BECOMING A REAL HEADACHE.

HEY TSUBASA-KUN,
AH, HE WOKE UP!
むく JUMP
OF COURSE NOT, MAMIYA-SAN.
YOU REALLY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO THIS SAKAKI AYAME GIRL?
ふっ HMM...
THAT SAID, WHEN I TRANS-FERRED ...
I MEAN I WAS ONLY ENROLLED IN HER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOR A SHORT TIME.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
DID YOU REMEMBER SOMETHING!?

HUH? A LETTER?

A LET-TER!?

I FIGURED SOMEONE JUST LEFT A LOVE LETTER.

BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE A TALISMAN TO WARD OFF EVIL INSIDE.

DEAR MEMORY

カドカドー

DUNIDUN DUNNN~!

7

WELL, ON THE WAY BACK HOME THAT DAY...

WAS IT REALLY AN EVIL-WARDING TALISMAN?

HUH?

SHE SEEMS KINDA SHOCKED.

"TOSS"

BEGONE, EVIL SPIRIT!

SO I TRIED USING IT.

"SPIT"

"ROAR"

I HAPPENED TO SPOT AN EVIL SPIRIT.

IT DID ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, SO I ENDED UP JUST USING MY REGULAR SACRED ASHES TO EXTERMINATE IT.

AND?

IT WAS ACTUALLY A CELL PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS.

I'M NOT SURE WHAT HAPPENED TO THE TALISMAN AFTER THAT.

"FLUTTERING"

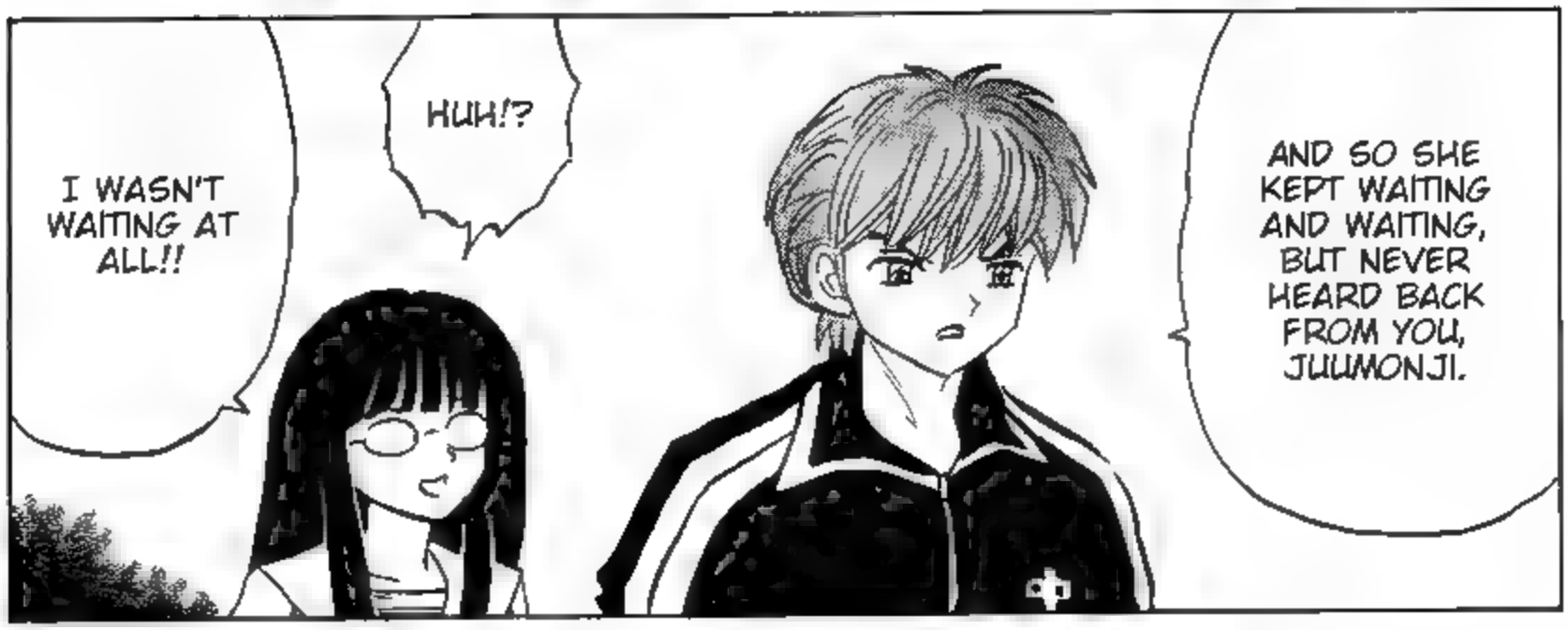
SAKAKI-SAN?

ROKUDOU-KUN?

YES,
BUT DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA!
THAT WAS YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!?

I SEE...
SO YOU THREW IT AWAY BACK THEN.

SO I FIGURED THE VERY LEAST I COULD DO WAS THANK YOU BY EMAIL.
IT'S JUST THAT I NEVER THANKED YOU FOR HELPING ME EXTERMINATE THE EVIL SPIRITS,


I WASN'T WAITING AT ALL!!
HUH!?
AND SO SHE KEPT WAITING AND WAITING, BUT NEVER HEARD BACK FROM YOU, JUUMONJI.

9

AH, ERM, IT'S NOT LIKE I KEPT WAITING FOR YOU OR ANYTHING...
FORGIVE ME, SAKAKI-SAN.

I HAD NO IDEA...
SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS...

AND THAT'S WHAT CREATED THE VENGEFUL SPIRIT.

YEAH,

こそ "WHISPERING"

DON'T TELL ME SHE'S ACTUALLY BEEN WAITING ALL THIS TIME?

SO THE VENGEFUL SPIRIT WANTED TO MEET TSUBASA-KUN...

I THOUGHT AS MUCH ...

はっはっは HA HA HA!

THAT'S A LOAD OFF MY MIND!

WELL THANK GOODNESS I DIDN'T KEEP YOU WAITING!

10

SURELY YOU MUST KNOW THIS, SASAKI-SAN.

IF YOU JUST LEAVE THINGS LIKE THIS AND GO HOME, NOTHING WILL CHANGE.

I'M GOING HOME.

ふらっ... "STAGGERING"

ばたっ "SLAM"

THE TRUTH IS, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR JOB...

YOU HAVE NO CONTROL OVER YOUR VENGEFUL SPIRIT, DO YOU?

IT JUST COMES OUT WHENEVER IT WANTS, DOESN'T IT?

THAT THE VENGEFUL SPIRIT SUDDENLY CAME OUT.

IT WASN'T UNTIL AFTER JUUMONJI-KUN TRANSFERRED AWAY,

YOU MAY BE RIGHT...

11

IT JUST WON'T DO ANYTHING I TELL IT.

WELL, THIS TIME IT WENT LOOKING FOR THE KOMAINU AND IT FOUND JUUMONJI...

I ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT IT WAS UP TO...

ALTHOUGH IT CAME OUT ON ITS OWN, THERE WERE NIGHTS WHERE IT LEFT AND DIDN'T COME BACK.

JUDGING BY THE AMOUNT OF STATIC COMING FROM IT, IT'S A RAW, UNTRAINED VENGEFUL SPIRIT.

I THOUGHT SO...

WHA...!?

IT WILL NEVER AGAIN RETURN TO YOUR BODY!!

IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT VENGEFUL SPIRIT,

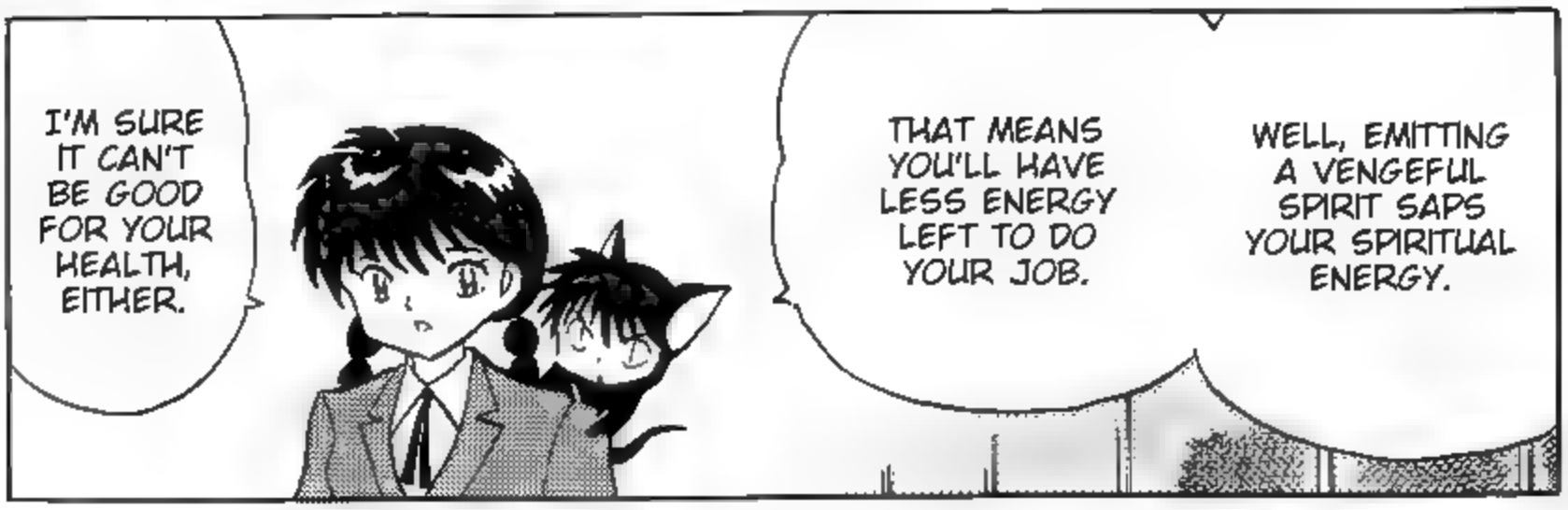
12

AFTER ALL, IT'S ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED IT'S MISSION TO FIND TSUBASA-KUN.

I SEE...

ACK!
YOU'RE BEING NAIVE IF YOU THINK THAT'S NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL.

IT'S GONNA TAKE SOME TIME TO SEPARATE THEM.
JUST LOOK AT IT, IT'S ALREADY GLUED TO JUUMONJI.


I'M SURE IT CAN'T BE GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH, EITHER.
THAT MEANS YOU'LL HAVE LESS ENERGY LEFT TO DO YOUR JOB.
WELL, EMITTING A VENGEFUL SPIRIT SAPS YOUR SPIRITUAL ENERGY.

13

THAT'S THE EASY PART.

JUST HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE IT COME BACK?
BUT...

NO WAY NO WAY NO WAY NO WAY NO WAY NO WAY NO WAY!

AND GO ON A DATE WITH JUUMON-

IN OTHER WORDS, JUST BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF,

YOUR VENGEFUL SPIRIT COULD BE SAID TO BE A PROJECTION OF YOUR TRUE FEELINGS.

IT LOOKS LIKE JUUMONJI-KUN ALREADY HAS HIS EYES ON ANOTHER GIRL.

SNEAKING UP

GLARE

WHY NOT?

14

WAKE UP.

CRUSH

URK!

AH, UH, I DIDN'T ASK HER TO DO THAT...

THWACK

STARTLED

IT WAS COMING FOR ME...

ME? GOING ON A DATE WITH SAKAKI-SAN?

WHY?

BECAUSE SHE'S ALWAYS LIKED YOU, OF COURSE.

BLUSH かあぁっ

GYAAAA!

HUH!? IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE HE'S CONFLICTED...

HE'S JUST THAT INTENT ON YOU, SAKURA-SAMA.

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO HESITATE, JUUMONJI!

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO RESOLVE THIS!

ドキ! "BA-DUM"

ドキ! "BA-DUM"

ドキ! "BA-DUM"

ドキ! "BA-DUM" "BA-DUM"

NOT EVEN A HINT OF HESITATION!

WHAAAA!?

"BAM"

WELL THEN, WHY DON'T WE START WITH A VISIT TO A THEME PARK. WE CAN GET A BITE TO EAT THERE AND STROLL AROUND.

ALTHOUGH MY FEELINGS FOR YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED,

FORGIVE ME, MAMIYA-SAN.

16

AM I DREAMING?!

I CAN'T HELP BUT BE ON TOP OF THE WORLD WHEN I JUST HEARD MY FIRST LOVE CONFESSION!

A HA HA HA!

GAH!

A HA HA HA HA!

BUSTLING

IF I KNEW IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS, I WOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING SOONER!

THIS IS SO MUCH FUN!

BUT HER VENGEFUL SPIRIT HASN'T REJOINED WITH HER YET.

THEY SEEM TO BE ENJOYING THEMSELVES.

ZOOM

WATCHING

17

DOES SHE STILL HAVE SOME KIND OF LINGERING REGRET!?

THIS IS ODD...

THAT WAS REALLY FUN!

WELL, LET'S HEAD BACK.

FIDGETTING

もじもじ

S-

SURE.

CookieS

HUH!?

FIDGETTING

もじもじ

UH-

UMM...

YES?

ERM...

UMM, DON'T YOU MEAN IT'S HER EMAIL ADDRESS?

AN EVIL-WARDING TALISMAN!?

ISN'T THAT...

18

NO WAY!

WORRIED

ふか ふか

SHE'S STILL GONNA HESITATE AFTER ALL THAT?

CRASH

どさっ

"DIVING IN"

OH... THANK YOU!

"OFFERING"

OK, THEN HAVE MINE, TOO!

あっさり "PROMPTLY"

YOUR EMAIL ADD-RESS?

ピッ "BEEP"

I'LL BE IN TOUCH!!

MAN, WAS THAT EVER A PAIN.

SAKAKI-SAN'S VENGEFUL SPIRIT RE-ENTERED HER.

SHE FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT.

はぁ～ "PANTING"

WHAT? THE KOMAINU IS STILL HERE!?

——KYOUKAI NO RINNE 17 · FIN——

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